

Six Days

LIZETTE ALVAREZ
TIMOTHY WILLIAMS
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Casey Anthony was sentenced Thursday to a four-year jail term, the maximum possible, for lying to the police but will be freed Wednesday because she has spent nearly three years behind bars in Orlan-



Casey Anthony smiles before the start of her sentencing hearing in Orlando, Fla., Thursday, July 7, 2011. Judge Belvin Perry sentenced Anthony to four years for lying to investigators but says she can go free in late July or early August because she has already served nearly three years in jail and has had good behavior.

(AP Photo/
Joe Burbank, Pool)

do, Fla., awaiting trial. Anthony, who was acquitted Tuesday of murdering her young daughter, Caylee, was sentenced to a year for each count of lying but was given credit for 1,043 days in jail, both for time served and good behavior. The judge also ordered her to pay a fine of \$4,000, or \$1,000 for each count. Judge Belvin Perry Jr., the presiding judge and the chief of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court in Orlando, said that by telling four lies to police officers – including that she spoke to Caylee by telephone on July 15, 2008 – she led them repeatedly on a “wild goose chase.”

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Running Start



Clean start to Pamplona's running of the bulls

Revelers run next to Torrestrella ranch fighting bulls during the opening of the running of the bulls at the San Fermin festival on Thursday, July 7, 2011, in Pamplona, Spain.
(AP Photo/Ivan Aguinaga)

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Clean start to Pamplona's running of the bulls

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PAUL LOGOTHETIS

Associated Press

PAMPLONA, Spain (AP) —

Thousands of thrill-seekers dashed ahead of six fighting bulls in the streets of the northern Spanish city of Pamplona on Thursday in a fast first running of the bulls in this year's San Fermin festival. No one was gored, but four people were taken to Navarre Hospital with injuries — one with fractured ribs — sustained during a sprint where the six guiding steers stole the show from the charging bulls from the Torrestrella ranch, which is famed for producing dangerous bulls.

Runners, wearing traditional white clothing and red kerchiefs around their necks, tripped over each other or fell in the mad rush but avoided getting caught out as daredevils



Revelers run on the Estafeta street as Torrestrellas ranch go on the way as people look on from the balconies during the first running of the bulls at the San Fermin fiestas in Pamplona northern Spain, Thursday July 7, 2011.

(AP Photo/Alvaro Barrientos)

and animals charged down the 849-meter (928-yard) course from a pen to the city's bull ring in 2 minutes, 30 seconds. "Anything we heard before doesn't even compare to what really happened," said 28-year-old California native Allison Byrne, whose husband Brian ran for the first time. "It was hard to watch that knowing that our husbands are down there. It was exciting and exhilarating, but I'll never do (this) again."

I'm still shaking." There were some unexpected moments as one of the steers separated from the pack and charged back toward the starting gate, sending runners scattering after having believed their dash was finished. Another steer stopped and laid down on the pavement near the end before eventually being guided into the bullring, where the six bulls will take part in the

afternoon's bullfight. "The steers are like a herding dog to the bulls. They are there to organize and manage the course. If there were no steers, the bulls would stop charging after 100 meters (yards). They are crucial to completing the run," said Javier Solano, who has 37 years experience with San Fermin and comments on the "encierro" — the Spanish term for the run — for national television. "What happened today is there were some young ones who don't know the course and a stray steer can be as dangerous as a bull," he said. Runners filled the course for the 8 a.m. (0600 GMT) start, with a thick crowd developing just after the halfway point, where one of the bulls became separated from the pack and was a standout figure amid a sea of white and red-clad runners charging down Estafeta Street. □

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Consensus building for budget deal saving \$4 trillion

MARK LANDLER

CARL HULSE

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WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama, convening high-stakes budget talks at the White House on Thursday, said Republicans and Democrats were still “far apart” but expressed confidence they could agree on an ambitious deal to prevent the government from defaulting on its debt.

Although the president and congressional leaders did not close wide gaps on the issues of spending cuts or new tax revenues, officials briefed on the talks said, they emerged with a consensus to aim for the biggest possible deal — one resulting in up to \$4 trillion in savings — and a recognition of the dire consequences of not acting before Aug. 2, when the government will lose its authority to borrow.

Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner gave a stark description of the upheaval he said would reverberate through financial markets and the broader U.S. economy if the government were to go into default, these officials said. The eight lawmakers from both parties listened somberly, officials said, and pledged to avoid such an outcome. “Everyone acknowledged that we have to get this done before the hard deadline of Aug. 2 to make sure America does not default for the first time on its obligations,” Obama said to reporters after the meeting. “And everybody acknowledged that there’s going to be pain involved politically on all sides.”

Democrats and Republicans are confronting not only tough choices about how to balance spending cuts and higher taxes, but how best to sell such a package, which would probably challenge basic philosophical tenets of each party, to their rank-and-file members.

Declaring that the meeting had been “very constructive,” Obama said that White House and congressional staff members would negotiate through the weekend and that the leaders would reconvene



President Barack Obama meets with Congressional leaders in the Cabinet Room in the White House to discuss ongoing efforts to cut the federal deficit in Washington on July 7, 2011. Reportedly Obama wants to move well beyond the \$2 trillion in savings sought in earlier negotiations and seek perhaps twice as much over the next decade. From left: House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Va.), House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio), Obama, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.), Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) and Senate Minority Whip Jon Kyl (R-Ariz.).

(Doug Mills/The New York Times)

at the White House on Sunday. At that point, he said, he hopes “the parties will at least know where each other’s bottom lines are” and try to conclude a deal within two weeks.

Later, top lawmakers and congressional officials said that they thought a narrow opening existed for a far-reaching agreement, and that the next 48 hours and the Sunday meeting would prove pivotal. If an acceptable package cannot be agreed upon, they predicted a fallback plan in the range of \$2 trillion or more, based on the earlier negotiations overseen by Vice President Joe Biden.

With the White House and the lawmakers promising not to divulge details of the talks, the specifics of an eventual deal were not yet clear. But Obama has put popular entitlement programs like Medicare and Social Security on the table, while House Speaker John A. Boehner has signaled for the first time his openness to up to \$1 trillion in new revenues. The money could presumably be raised through closing loopholes but would also probably require changes to the tax code that would have to be worked out later.

The prospect of cuts in health care benefits and

Social Security has alarmed Democrats. On Thursday, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, the House Democratic leader, said she wanted to give the president room to negotiate a broad agreement but would resist efforts to tie the deal to Social Security. “Do not consider Social Security a piggy bank for giving tax cuts to the wealthiest people in our country,” Pelosi said to reporters on Capitol Hill after the meeting. “We are not going to balance the budget on the backs of America’s seniors, women, and people with disabilities.” Obama plans to meet privately with Pelosi on Friday, suggesting that the White House is now turning its attention to soothing Democrats after the president held a secret meeting with Boehner on Sunday. □

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Democrats pick David Weprin to run for Weiner's seat

DAVID W. CHEN

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NEW YORK — For decades, David I. Weprin has played the role of good Democratic soldier, the scion of a vaunted Queens political family who repeatedly won elections as a city councilman and currently as a state assemblyman. Now, he has been asked to perform what many government analysts say could be the ultimate political sacrifice: running for a congressional seat that may soon be eliminated. On Thursday, Democratic leaders in Queens and Brooklyn said they planned to designate Weprin, 55, as their party's nominee in a Sept. 13 special election to replace former Rep. Anthony D. Weiner. Weiner, who had been considered a strong contender in the 2013 mayoral election, resigned from his congressional seat June 16 after acknowledging that he had sent sexually explicit online messages to at least six women. Should Weprin win the special election — the district is strongly Democratic — he would serve out the rest of Weiner's term, through the end of 2012. The long-term future of the 9th Congressional District, which Weiner had represented since 1999, is unclear. As a result of the 2010 census, New York must lose two con-

gressional seats, and some political observers believe that the 9th District could be eliminated. That means whoever wins Weiner's seat could have a congressional career lasting just 475 days. Weprin was elected to the Assembly in 2010 after eight years on the City Council. He ran unsuccessfully for city comptroller in 2009. He has worked as a lawyer, a financial adviser and a senior banking official under former Gov. Mario M. Cuomo. Weprin lives a few blocks outside the bound-

councilman and a former assemblyman. David Weprin is an observant Jew with a staunchly pro-Israel viewpoint, which is significant in a district with many Orthodox Jewish voters. Republicans must choose their party's nominee by Monday. One potential Republican nominee, City Councilman Eric Ulrich, announced this week that he would not seek the seat, but party officials say they have interviewed more than a dozen prospects, and contend that their growing vote to-



New York State Assemblyman David Weprin, left, with former mayoral candidate Fernando Ferrer, talk after an election debate in New York. On July 7, Democratic leaders in Queens and Brooklyn said they planned to designate Weprin as their party's nominee in a Sept. 13 special election to replace former Representative Anthony D. Weiner.

(James Estrin/New York Times)

ary lines of the district, two-thirds of which is in Queens; the rest is in Brooklyn. His father, Saul, was speaker of the State Assembly, and his brother, Mark, is a city

tals in recent elections — a Republican, Bob Turner, won 40 percent of the vote against Weiner in 2010 — means that they could win the seat. □

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"As a result of these four separate and distinct lies, law enforcement expended a great deal of time, energy and manpower looking for young Caylee Marie Anthony," Perry said. "This search for her went on from July through December, over several months, trying to find Caylee Marie Anthony. Four distinct separate lies." Defense lawyers had

tice for Caylee" and "Plenty of Evidence. No Guts." The verdict has generated a great deal of anger, and Jose Baez, Anthony's lawyer, has expressed concern for her safety and is considering hiring bodyguards. The case has riveted much of the country, which became entranced by tales of a duplicitous young mother apparently more in-



Edward Mehnert, of Orlando, covers his mouth with duct tape as he protests during the Casey Anthony sentencing in outside the Orange County Courthouse in Orlando, Fla., Thursday, July 7, 2011. A court official says Casey Anthony is going to be released from jail next Wednesday following her conviction for lying to authorities who were investigating the death of her 2-year-old daughter, Caylee.

(AP Photo/Alan Diaz)

argued for a maximum of one year because the four lies were told on the same day, July 16, 2008. Anthony chose not to speak during her sentencing. Her parents, Cindy and George Anthony, sat at the back of the courtroom, showing little emotion. A jury had acquitted her of first-degree murder, aggravated manslaughter and aggravated child abuse in the death of her 2-year-old daughter. Outside the courthouse, a throng of loud protesters, including some people who had searched for Caylee, held placards reading "Jus-

terested in boyfriends and bar hopping than in caring for her child.

The verdict incited outrage from people who had watched the televised trial and then used Twitter and set up Facebook pages to venomously denounce the verdict.

Caylee was last seen June 16, 2008. Her remains were found that Dec. 11 in woods near her grandparents' home. Anthony failed to report Caylee missing for 31 days. During her daughter's disappearance, Anthony got a tattoo that said "bella vita" — beautiful life. □

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Man who hoped to kill President Obama charged in S.D. slaying

SIoux FALLS, S.D. — A convicted felon charged with killing a 75-year-old South Dakota hospice nurse so he could steal her car and drive to Washington, D.C., described the woman during a TV interview as "collateral damage" in what he envisioned as a scheme to kill President Barack Obama.

James McVay, 41, is charged with first-degree murder and burglary in the weekend stabbing death of Maybelle Schein. During a jailhouse interview with television station WKOW in Madison, Wis., where McVay was arrested Saturday, he said that Schein was "in my way and I removed her."

"He did it just more or less as kind of a lark, I guess," Schein's brother, Ted Fetters, said Thursday. "He didn't have to kill her. He

could have stole her car, but he killed her because he was wanting to kill somebody."

Court records in Madison show that McVay is being represented by the state public defender.

A call to that office's communication director was not immediately returned. Schein's niece found the woman dead with her throat cut in her Sioux Falls home Saturday. Police used the OnStar tracking service in Schein's vehicle to locate McVay on Interstate 90 near Madison later that day and he was arrested after a brief chase. Fetters said his sister did not know McVay.

Released from prison two days earlier, McVay told authorities after his arrest that he planned to kill someone in Sioux Falls, steal their vehicle and drive to



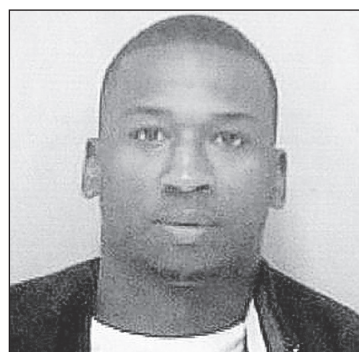
James McVay, left, appears with a public defender during an initial appearance before Court Commissioner Todd Meurer at the Dane County Public Safety Building in Madison, Wis., Thursday, July 7, 2011. McVay, 41, is charged with first-degree murder and burglary in the weekend stabbing death of Maybelle Schein. McVay, a convicted felon charged with killing 75-year-old hospice nurse Schein so he could steal her car and drive to Washington, D.C., described the woman during a TV interview as "collateral damage" in what he envisioned as a scheme to kill President Barack Obama.

(AP Photo/Wisconsin State Journal, M.P. King)

Washington, D.C. to attack Obama. A U.S. Secret Service spokesman confirmed Thursday that McVay has been on the agency's radar since 2009.

McVay had been serving a five-year sentence with two years suspended for a 2006 grand theft conviction, combined with a concurrent sentence for a 2009 escape attempt. He had previously served time in Nebraska, but was returned to South Dakota and became eligible for parole on May 16, said Michael Winder, spokesman for the South Dakota Department of Corrections. McVay was sent last Thursday to the prison's community transition program, a minimum-security unit outside the prison's perimeter fence. The next day, he took off. □

Chief: Suspected Mich. gunman holds 2 hostages



This photo provided by the Grand Rapids police shows 34-year-old Rodrick Dantzler, who police are searching for in connection with shootings at two homes in Grand Rapids, Mich. that left seven dead, including a child, on Thursday, July 7, 2011.

(AP Photo)

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP)

— A gunman opened fire in two Michigan homes Thursday, killing seven people before leading police on a high-speed chase through downtown Grand Rapids and taking two hostages in another home, authorities said.

Within hours, dozens of of-

ficers with guns drawn had cordoned off a neighborhood near a small lake in the northern part of the city and shut down nearby Interstate 96. With the man surrounded, state police warned residents to stay in their homes.

Grand Rapids Police Chief Kevin Belk said officers were communicating with the suspect, 34-year-old Rodrick Shonte Dantzler. Neither hostage was believed to be injured.

The manhunt for Dantzler began after four people were found dead in one home and three were found in another across town. The dead included a child. "It's an awful situation, and he's still at large," Mayor George Heartwell told The Associated Press. He did not know any motive or Dantzler's relationship to any of the victims.

At one point during the chase, the suspect crossed a wide grassy median on

the interstate and drove the wrong way down the highway while more than a dozen squad cars pursued him. The highway remained closed hours later.

Two other people were shot when the suspect fired at police during the chase, but their wounds were not considered life-threatening. Some of the gunshots struck the windshield of a police cruiser in downtown Grand Rapids. No officers were hurt, Belk said. Records show Dantzler was discharged from state prison in 2005 after serving time for assault less than murder. A spokesman for the prison system said he had not been under state supervision since then. Sandra Powney lives across the street from one of the homes where the shootings happened and said she had seen Dantzler at the ranch house, where a couple has lived for more than 20 years with two adult daughters. □

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Egg producers and humane society to urge standard on cages

WILLIAM NEUMAN

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Two groups that are usually squawking at each other – egg farmers and animal welfare advocates – announced an unusual agreement Thursday to work together to seek a federal law that would require larger cages and other improved conditions for the nation's 280 million laying hens.

The deal comes after the egg industry has been put increasingly on the defensive. Animal welfare groups have clandestinely recorded videos showing poor conditions on farms, and various states have sought to set more humane standards for hens. Egg producers have also been struggling to improve their image after tainted eggs from several farms in Iowa sickened thousands of people in a nationwide salmonella outbreak last year. The agreement was announced by the nation's main egg industry group, the United Egg Producers, which represents farmers who own about 80 percent of the nation's laying hens, and the Humane Society

of the United States, the nation's largest animal protection organization.

The groups said they would ask Congress to pass a law enacting the new standards, which they said would be the first federal law addressing the treatment of farm animals and would pre-empt efforts in several states to set their own standards.

The proposed federal standards would include cages that give hens up to 144 square inches of

space each, compared to the 67 square inches that most hens have today. They would also include so-called habitat enrichments, like perches, scratching areas and nesting areas, that would allow the birds to express natural behavior.

"We always feel that if we can work with the folks who are handling the animals and get them to agree to improve standards, that's the best outcome," said Wayne Pacelle, chief executive of the Humane So-

ciety. "We don't have to be locked in combat forever. That's not our goal. Our goal is the welfare of animals."

The industry said the changes, in most cases, would be phased in over the next 18 years at a cost of \$4 billion.

It is far from clear whether such a law could be passed. One potential obstacle is opposition from other poultry or livestock farmers, who may be worried that similar laws could some day apply to them.

In a statement Thursday, the National Pork Producers Council said that a federal law regulating living conditions for hens "would set a dangerous precedent for allowing the federal government to dictate how livestock and poultry producers raise and care for their animals."

Robert L. Krouse, chairman of United Egg Producers, acknowledged the difficulties ahead.

"That's part of what we have to do, as United Egg Producers, is talk with these other groups and hopefully get them to see our point of view," said Krouse, an Indiana egg farmer. "We understand their concerns, but this is about egg pro-

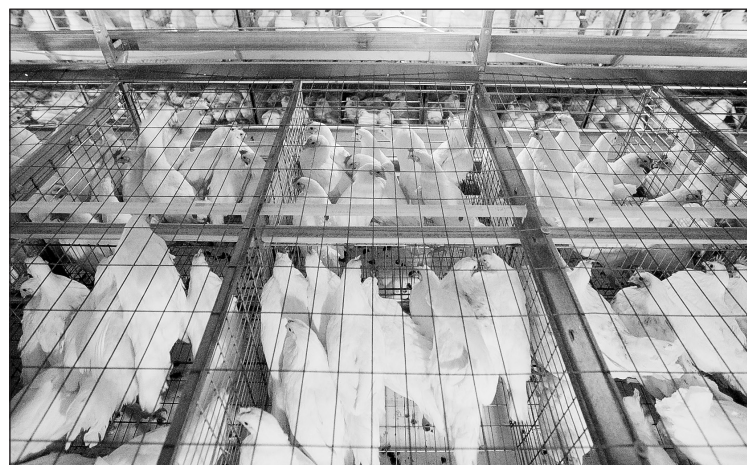
ducers, this is a solution that we've found for us."

Krouse said the group also would have to persuade its members to support the plan, since the negotiations were kept secret until Thursday's announcement. The egg producers said they wanted a federal law that would take the place of laws and regulations popping up piecemeal in several states, often with varying standards.

One of the most significant state laws is a ballot measure passed in California in 2008 that says that laying hens, veal calves and pregnant sows must have enough room to stand up, turn around, lie down and fully extend their limbs.

For its part, the Humane Society agreed to give up on a push to ban cages entirely in exchange for the opportunity to work toward a single, nationwide standard mandating better conditions.

The group also said it would shelve efforts to get initiatives onto the ballot in Washington and Oregon, and would agree not to conduct undercover investigations at large egg farms unless it was aware of especially egregious practices. □



Chickens at the Hi-Grade Egg Farm owned by Midwest Poultry Services, in North Manchester, Ind. United Egg Producers and the Humane Society of the United States announced on July 7 they will work together seeking a federal law that would require larger cages and other improved conditions for tens of millions of laying hens.

(A.J. Mast/The New York Times)

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Murdoch closing tabloid linked to British phone hacking



Rebekah Brooks, chief executive of News International is driven away from offices of News International in London, Thursday, July 7, 2011. News International announced Thursday it is shutting down the News of the World, the best-selling Sunday tabloid at the center of Britain's phone hacking scandal. James Murdoch, who heads European operations for the paper's parent company, said the 168-year-old weekly newspaper would publish its last edition Sunday. The scandal has cost the Sunday-only paper prestige and prompted dozens of companies to pull their ads.

(AP Photo/Matt Dunham)

SARAH LYALL

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Reporting was contributed by Jo Becker, Julia Werdiger, and Ravi Somaiya from London, Jeremy Peters and Brian Stelter from New York, and Tim Arango from Baghdad. Britain's media and political landscape shifted Thursday as the powerful Murdoch family summarily announced plans to shut down the disgraced mass-circulation tabloid at the center of a deepening scandal over journalistic malfeasance, and arrest seemed imminent for the paper's once politically influential former editor. The decision by Rupert Murdoch's media conglomerate, News Corp., to close the paper, The News of the World, seemed to be a calculated move to help protect Murdoch's proposed

\$12 billion takeover of the pay-television company British Sky Broadcasting. But it hardly put an end to the saga, or to Murdoch's connection to it.

The scandal exposes a web of relationships between the Murdochs' empire on the one hand and the police and politicians on the other. And it poses new challenges for Murdoch, a media tycoon who has at times seemed to hold much of Britain's political establishment in thrall, cultivating connections to both Labour and Conservative governments and using the prospect of his support – or its withdrawal – to help drive his political agenda. In a statement of strikingly self-critical apology, Murdoch's son and heir apparent, James Murdoch, admitted that News International, the compa-

ny's British subsidiary, had "failed to get to the bottom of repeated wrongdoings that occurred without conscience or legitimate purpose." The company's repeated assertions that the scandal was "confined to one reporter," had proven untrue, he said, "and those who acted wrongly will have to face the consequences."

According to several people who have been briefed on the matter, it appears increasingly likely that Andy Coulson, a former News of the World editor who most recently worked as the chief spokesman for Prime Minister David Cameron's government, is to be arrested Friday on suspicion of illegally paying the police for information during his editorship. His arrest, if it does take place, would be a huge blow not just to

Murdoch, but to the government and to Cameron's Conservative Party. The prime minister has always vouched for Coulson's integrity and said he believed Coulson's assurances that he had done nothing wrong. By closing The News of the

World, which is 168 years old and is Britain's largest-circulation newspaper, Murdoch seems determined to try to limit damage from the scandal and remove a possible obstacle to the takeover of British Sky Broadcasting, known as BSkyB. □



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daily: 4:45 - 8:00 **SP**
matinee: 1:30 **PG-13**
late show: 11:15

CARS 2
daily: 4:00 - 6:30 - 9:00 **SP**
matinee: 1:30 **PG**
late show: 11:30

KUNG FU PANDA 2
daily: 12:15 - 3:15 **SP**
matinee: 12:15 - 3:15 **PG**
late show: 11:00

AT PASEO HERENCIA

THE ZOOKEEPER
daily: 4:45 - 7:15 - 9:45 **NEW**
matinee: 12:00 - 2:15 **PG-13**
late show: 12:00

BEGINNERS
daily: 6:30 - 8:45
matinee: 11:00 **R**

BAD TEACHER
daily: 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:30
matinee: 12:45 - 3:00 **R**
late show: 11:45

MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS
daily: 4:00
matinee: 1:15 **PG**
late show: 11:00

TRANSFORMER 3
daily: 5:00 - 8:15 **SP**
matinee: 1:30 **PG-13**
late show: 11:30

CARS 2
daily: 5:15
matinee: 12:00 - 2:45 **SP**
late show: 11:30

KUNG FU PANDA 2
daily: 5:30
matinee: 1:00 - 3:15 **SP**
late show: 11:00

TRANSFORMER 3 IN 2D
daily: 7:45
matinee: 11:00 **SP**
late show: 11:00 **PG-13**

SP = subtítulos en Español

Harry Potter

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Sunday 7:45 pm

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Monday 7:45 pm

THE HALF BLOOD PRINCE
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THE DEATHLY HALLOW PART 1
Wednesday 7:45 pm

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Yemeni president speaks on TV for first time since attack

NASSER ARRABYEE

J. DAVID GOODMAN

© 2011 New York Times

SANAA, Yemen – President Ali Abdullah Saleh of Yemen appeared on television Thursday for the first time since he was injured in a bombing of his presidential compound's mosque a month ago.

The prerecorded broadcast from Saudi Arabia, where he has been recuperating since the attack, showed him speaking with difficulty, with a red Saudi headdress and a darkened face from the severe burns he suffered. Saleh, who remained seated, said, "I underwent eight surgical operations."

Both of his arms were ban-



In this video image taken from a prerecorded video and broadcast Thursday July 7, 2011 on Yemen state TV from Saudi Arabia, Yemen's embattled President Ali Abdullah Saleh lashed out at opponents seeking to drive him from power in his first public appearance since he was injured last month in a blast at his palace compound. Sitting rigid in a chair, his hair covered with a cloth and his hands wrapped in white bandages, Ali Abdullah Saleh accused "terrorist elements" of carrying out the

June 3 attack and criticized his opponents for trying to topple him. He wore a white robe and his face appeared noticeable darker than before the attack.

(AP Photo/Yemen state TV)

daged and did not move. It was unclear precisely when the message was recorded.

Saleh's televised appearance comes amid growing political uncertainty in the impoverished nation and appeared likely to embolden Saleh's supporters while angering the thousands of protesters still massed in the streets of the capital, Sanaa, calling for him to resign. After the speech, supporters in the capital and cities around Yemen celebrated with fireworks and bursts of gunfire.

His appearance seemed aimed at bolstering those supporters and dispelling rumors that he had succumbed to his wounds. He made no mention of when – or if – he would return to Yemen. □

As Justices refuse to step in, Mexican citizen is executed

ADAM LIPTAK

© 2011 New York Times

WASHINGTON/MEXICO CITY – In a 5-4 decision that split along ideological lines, the Supreme Court on Thursday evening rebuffed a request from the Obama administration that it stay the execution of a Mexican citizen on death row in Texas. The inmate, Humberto Leal Garcia Jr., was executed about an hour later.

The administration had asked the court to delay the execution so that Congress might consider recently introduced legislation that would provide fresh hearings on whether the rights of Leal and about 50 other Mexican citizens on death row in the United States had been violated. In 2004, the International Court of Justice in The Hague found that the inmates had been denied their rights under the Vienna Convention. The convention requires that foreigners detained abroad be told they may contact consular officials. In 2008, the Supreme Court acknowledged that the international court's ruling was binding but said that the president acting alone could not compel states to comply with it. Congress also had to act, the court said. On Thursday, in an unsigned majority opinion, the Supreme Court said that Congress had plenty of time to act and that the court would not now "prohibit a state from carrying out a lawful judgment in light of unenacted legislation." "Our task," the majority wrote, "is to rule on what the law is, not what it might eventually be."

The majority also noted that "the United States studiously refuses to argue that Leal was prejudiced by the Vienna Convention violation," suggesting that a fresh hearing would do Leal no good.

He was convicted of kidnapping, raping and killing a 16-year-old girl.

"We decline," the majority wrote, "to follow the United States' suggestion of granting a stay to allow Leal to bring a claim based on hypothetical legislation when it cannot even bring itself to say that his attempt to overturn his conviction has any prospect of success."

Justice Stephen G. Breyer, in a dissent joined by justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan, wrote that the government's request was modest given that allowing the execution to proceed would, in the solicitor general's words, "cause irreparable harm" to "foreign-policy interests of the highest order" and endanger Americans traveling abroad.

The court should defer to the executive branch's assessment, Breyer wrote, as "the court has long recognized the president's special constitutionally based authority in matters of foreign relations."

He proposed issuing "a brief stay until the end of September" to allow Congress time to act.

"In reaching its contrary conclusion," Breyer wrote, "the court ignores the appeal of the president in a matter related to foreign affairs, it substitutes its own views about the likelihood of congressional action for the views of executive branch officials who have consulted with members of Congress, and it denies the request by four members of the Court to delay the execution until the court can discuss the matter at conference in September. In my view, the Court is wrong in each respect." □

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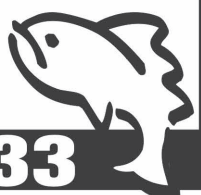
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Mubarak allies charged over Tahrir Square

LIAM STACK

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CAIRO, Egypt – More than two dozen onetime officials and allies of former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak were charged Thursday with murder, attempted murder and terrorism, accused of organizing one of the most memorable attacks on protesters during the 18-day revolution, in which assailants riding horses and camels charged into the crowds at Tahrir Square.

The charges were announced by the Judicial Investigation Commission, an independent office set up by the prosecutor, and came amid rising public anger over the slow pace with which officials and the police have been held accountable for the killings of more than 840 people during the revolution.

Some activists and analysts said they saw the announcement as an effort to neutralize plans for a demonstration scheduled for Friday, in large part to press the interim military government for greater accountability.

"The announcement of the accusations against these people happened because of tomorrow's protest," said Nabil Abdel Fattah, an analyst at the state-financed Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies. "But where is Hosni Mubarak and his two sons? Where is the ex-president of Egypt?"

The government had previously announced that Mubarak would stand trial next month in connection with the deaths and on other corruption related charges. □

Chavez back in charge at Venezuela Cabinet meeting

JACK CHANG

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— President Hugo Chavez went back to work Thursday, addressing soldiers at a promotion ceremony and then talking for more than an hour while presiding over a televised Cabinet meeting.

Vowing to beat cancer, Chavez showed no apparent signs of weakness as he spoke to his Cabinet members, who clapped for him as the meeting ended.

"Here is the government, demonstrating what it's capable of," Chavez said during the meeting, which was shown live on state television. Raising the issue of his cancer diagnosis, Chavez said: "We will win, and we will live."

Chavez also lambasted his political adversaries, suggesting the opposition has no chance of winning next year's presidential election against him.

"You will never again govern the Venezuelan fatherland," he said.

"We're moving toward 2021," Chavez added, referring to the year he's mentioned at times as a tentative moment for his retirement from politics.

He spoke for an hour and a half, his longest speech since he stunned the nation with a June 30 announcement in Cuba that he had undergone surgery to remove a cancerous tumor.

Chavez appeared relaxed and comfortable as he addressed his ministers and reviewed government housing and railway projects.

Chavez met earlier in the day with cadets and other soldiers at Fort Tiuna, Venezuela's largest military base. He spoke at Venezuela's military academy, overseeing the promotion



In this photo provided by Miraflores Presidential Press Office, Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez, center, shares a moment with female Army cadets during a visit to Alejandro Petion military academy at Forte Tiuna in Caracas, Venezuela, Thursday, July 7, 2011. Ailing Chavez appeared live on television Thursday, meeting with cadets and other soldiers at the country's largest military base and vowing to survive his recent surgery to remove a cancerous tumor.

(AP Photo//Miraflores Presidential Press Office)

of several hundred soldiers in fatigues standing in formation in a courtyard.

The president scoffed at suggestions by some of his opponents and commentators that he has faked illness, allegedly as part of his re-election strategy.

"I was reading in the morning something crazy that, 'No, it was an invention of Fidel Castro and Chavez,'" Chavez told the soldiers.

"After two operations some have said it's a lie," he added. "If only you saw my abdomen. I'm not going to show you, but they're quite a few stitches."

Chavez's public appearances were his first since Tuesday, when he spoke and met with visiting leaders during Venezuela's bi-centennial celebrations. □

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Would it hurt to see a film about a Yiddish writer?

STEPHEN HOLDEN

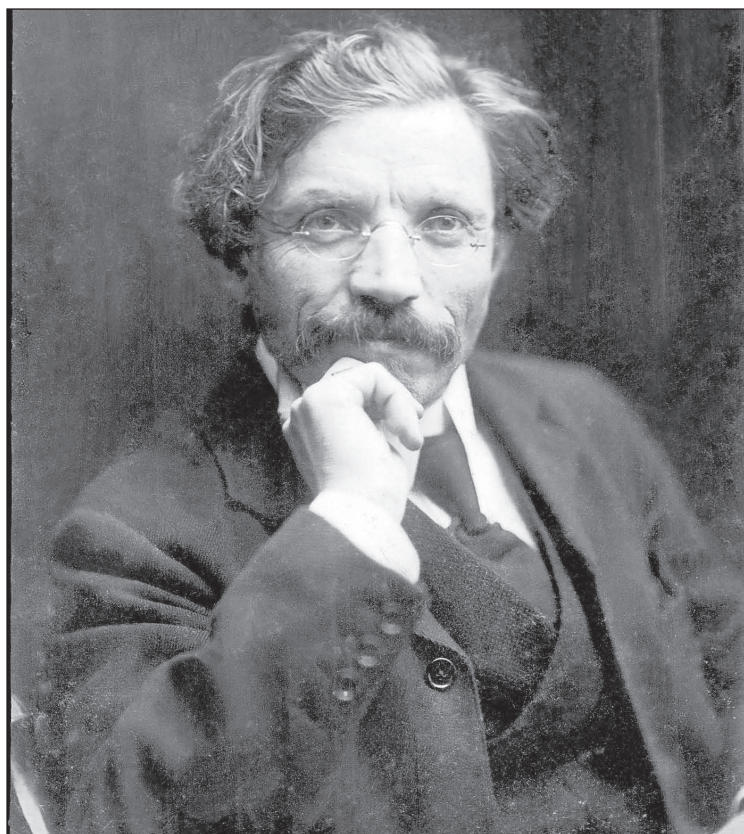
© 2011 New York Times

"Sholem Aleichem: Laughing in the Darkness" is much more than a documentary biography of "the Jewish Mark Twain," as the creator of Tevye the Dairyman, Menachem-Mendel and other beloved folkloric characters has been called. It is a rich, beautifully organized and illustrated modern history of Eastern European Jewry examined through the life and work of Aleichem, born Sholem Rabinovich in Pereyaslav (near Kiev) in 1859. His literary pseudonym was derived from the Hebrew expression "shalom aleichem," meaning "peace be with you."

The film, directed by Joseph Dorman, explores the history and dissolution of Eastern European Jewish culture and the conflicting desires of later generations to remember and to forget. In the late 19th century Jews were second-class subjects in czarist Russia and convenient scapegoats in times

of social and political unrest; any dreams they had of assimilation were shattered by periodic pogroms. The rural Jewish culture of

the shtetl was further eroded by the Industrial Revolution and World War I and finally wiped out by the Holocaust.



An undated handout photo of Sholem Aleichem. Aleichem, known as "the Jewish Mark Twain," is the subject of a documentary biography called "Sholem Aleichem: Laughing in the Darkness," directed by Joseph Dorman.

(The New York Times)

One of the film's central themes is Aleichem's personification of the tug of war between nostalgia for the past and the impulse to leave it behind. As millions of Jews emigrated to the United States, where they found it easier to assimilate, Aleichem was not everyone's idea of a forward-looking cultural hero.

The movie reveals that he was every bit as colorful a figure as the characters in his stories. Aleichem was one of 12 children whom his recently widowed father hid with relatives before remarrying, then introduced one by one to the dismay of his shrewish second wife. One of Aleichem's earliest works was a glossary of his stepmother's curses. As a young man Aleichem, who was something of a dandy, took a job tutoring the daughter of a wealthy Jewish landowner. When a relationship between them was discovered, he was fired, and the lovers eloped. He was eventually accepted by her family.

Hebrew was the written Jewish language, and Yiddish, a mixture of German, Hebrew and Slavic languages, had no literature, no newspapers or publications. According to the movie, Aleichem, who founded a Yiddish literary journal, aspired to be "the designer of modern Yiddish literature." This rich, highly expressive language, which one scholar in the film likens to Shakespeare's English, is remembered as having been "a protective shield" and "a portable homeland" separating insular rural Jews from their Russian neighbors.

Upon moving to Kiev, Aleichem became rich from speculating on stocks, but he lost everything in 1890 and fled Russia only to be rescued financially by his mother-in-law, although she never spoke to him again. Aleichem was ruined but never learned his lesson, and he continued coming up with reckless, unsuccessful get-rich-quick schemes. □

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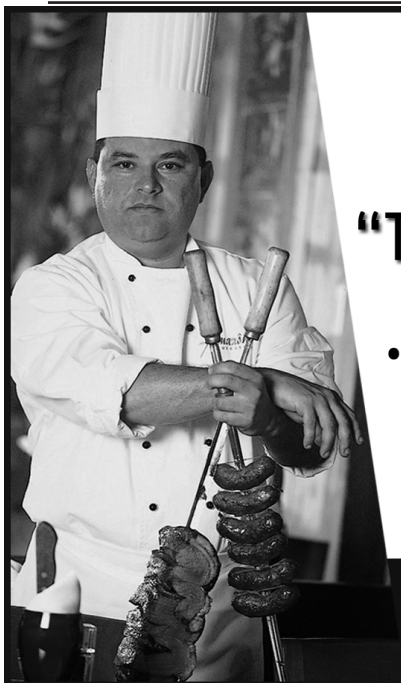


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In Olympic bid:

Not giving up pays off for sleepy South Korean town

CHOE SANG-HUN

© 2011 New York Times

SEOUL, South Korea – When the town of Pyeongchang first pitched its Olympic dream 12 years ago, some International Olympic Committee members confused it with Pyongyang, the North Korean capital. Even within South Korea it was known until recently mainly for having bid unsuccessfully for the 2010 and 2014 Winter Games. "We never gave up, that's

what made the difference," Yeom Don-seol, a Pyeongchang resident, said this week after the town of 43,000 prevailed over Munich, Germany, and Annecy, France, to host the 2018 Games. "Now people from around the world will come here. We have finally marked ourselves on the map of the world." Villagers, many of whom are farmers, stayed up all night Wednesday celebrating with fireworks and the

favorite pastimes of rural South Korea: singing, dancing and drinking rice wine. In the capital, Seoul, a city of 10 million 80 miles east of Pyeongchang, shouts of joy erupted from high-rise apartment buildings when TV networks broadcast the IOC's decision from Durban, South Africa, shortly after midnight local time.

"Patience and perseverance have prevailed," said Jacques Rogge, the IOC president. Pyeongchang, 50 miles from the border with North Korea in the Taebaek Mountains, is in one of the country's least developed provinces, Gangwon. The region has long been known for abandoned coal mines and steep hills scarred by barbed wire fences, military bunkers and minefields guarding against North Korea. It is also home to the noted Buddhist temple Woljeongsa, founded almost 1,400 years ago.

In recent years, however, the area has begun a physical transformation, matched only perhaps by a change in the attitudes of many South Koreans. People who once regarded skiing and other winter sports as hobbies for the rich, associating them with places like Europe and North America, began to see opportunity in the Taebaeks, some of which rise 5,500 feet. In time the mountains and the ice rinks near Pyeongchang, traditionally a sleepy town, became a haven for winter sports enthusiasts and ulti-



A man drinks a cup of coffee during a lunch break near the banners celebrating his country's victory for the host city of the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, Thursday, July 7, 2011.

(AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)



Models pose with LG Electronics' Optimus 3D phones during a press conference in South Korea, Thursday, July 7, 2011

(AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

mately as a site for international events, including the 1999 Winter Asian Games. The region has been in the grip of Olympic fever for more than a decade, one growing hotter since 2003, when Pyeongchang lost its bid for the 2010 Games to Vancouver, British Columbia. Signs on its streets and in taxicabs carry slogans like "Yes! Pyeongchang" and "Dream come true!" Bulldozers have pushed on to clear potato fields and pine-covered hills to create a \$1.5 billion resort complex called Alpensia that developers envision as a new Asian hub of winter sports. For the Olympics, there will be at least 13 competition sites within 30 minutes of one another. And a high-speed rail line connecting Pyeongchang and Seoul, as well as new highways, are expected to be ready for the Games.

The first-ballot victory, by a 63-25 vote over Munich, Pyeongchang's closest rival, has brightened the mood

of a country surrounded by neighbors it has traditionally feared and mistrusted, and which has had a troubled year, with military provocations by North Korea.

South Korea has long looked to major international sports events to reaffirm its confidence. In 1988, in a coming-out party for a young democracy, the Summer Olympics were held in Seoul. In 2002, South Korea was the co-host with Japan of the men's World Cup soccer tournament. Next month, the world track and field championships will be held in Daegu.

Sports officials appear tireless in reminding the people that South Korea had become only the sixth country – after Japan, Germany, France, Russia and Italy – to have won the rights to stage all four of the world's biggest sports competitions: the Summer and Winter Olympics, the soccer World Cup and the track and field world championships. □

Bad Science:

How a breakthrough in cancer testing unraveled

GINA KOLATA

© 2011 New York Times

When Juliet Jacobs found out she had lung cancer, she was terrified, but she realized that her hope lay in getting the best treatment medicine could offer. So she got a sec-

patients' relatives are suing Duke.

The episode is a stark illustration of serious problems in a field in which the medical community has placed great hope: using patterns from large groups of genes or other

plex analyses of patterns of genes and other molecules.

So far, the Food and Drug Administration "has generally not enforced" its regulation of tests created by individual labs because, until recently, such tests were relatively

scale, the FDA is taking a new look at enforcement.

Dr. Scott Ramsey, director of cancer outcomes research at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center in Seattle, says already there is "a mini gold rush" of companies trying to market tests based on the new techniques, at a time when good science has not caught up with the financial push. "That's the scariest part of all," Ramsey said.

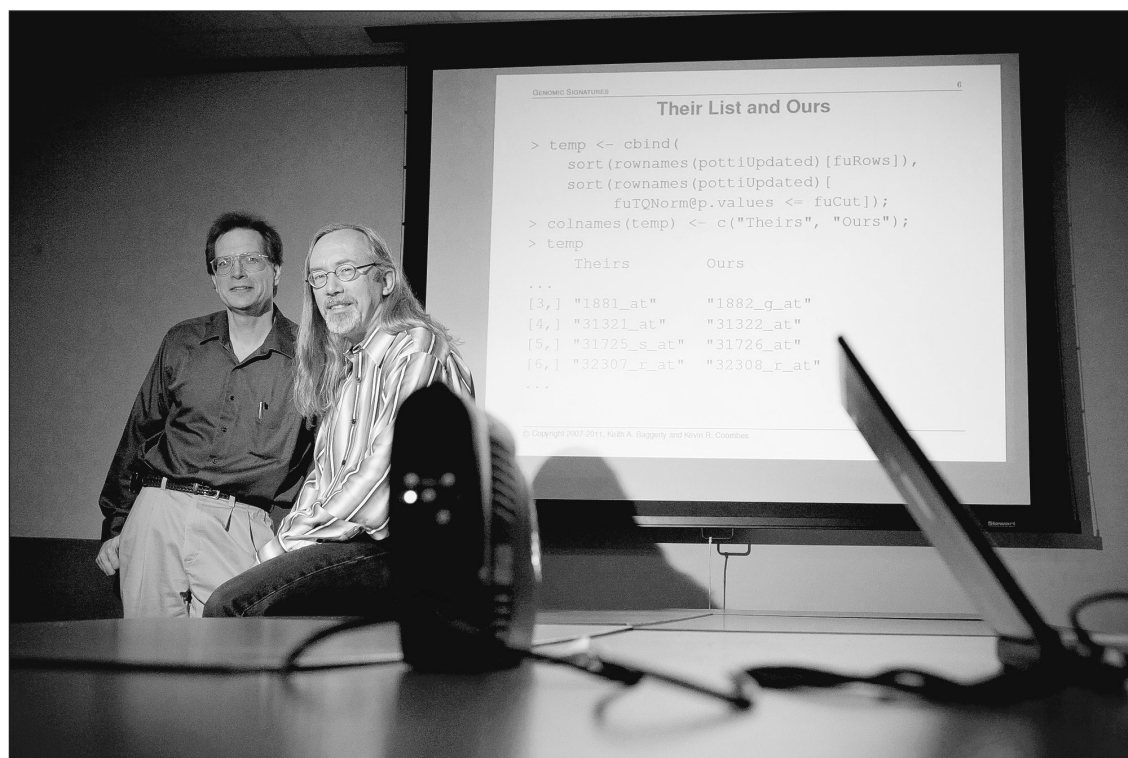
Doctors say the heart of the problem is the intricacy of the analyses in this emerging field and the difficulty in finding errors. Even well-respected scientists often "oversee a machine they do not understand and cannot supervise directly" because each segment of the research requires different areas of expertise, said Dr. Lajos Pusztai, a breast cancer researcher at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas. As a senior scientist, he added, "It's true for me, too."

The Duke case came right after two other claims that gave medical researchers pause. Like the Duke case, they used complex analyses to detect

by a Yale scientist, Dr. Gil G. Mor, licensed by the university and sold to patients before it was found to be useless.

The other, OvaCheck, was developed by a company, Correlogic, with contributions from scientists from the National Cancer Institute and the Food and Drug Administration. Major commercial labs licensed it and were about to start using it before two statisticians from M.D. Anderson discovered and publicized its faults.

The Duke saga began when a prestigious journal, *Nature Medicine*, published a paper on Nov. 6, 2006, by Dr. Anil Potti, a young cancer researcher at Duke University Medical Center; Joseph R. Nevins, a senior scientist there; and their colleagues. They wrote about genomic tests they developed that looked at the molecular traits of a cancerous tumor and figured out which chemotherapy would work best. Other groups of cancer researchers had been trying to do the same thing. "Our group was despondent to get beaten out," said Dr. John Minna, a lung cancer researcher at the University of Texas South-



Keith Baggerly, left, and Kevin Coombes, statisticians at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas, next to a presentation of errors they found in a Duke University cancer research paper, in Houston. Baggerly and Coombes found errors in a paper published by Duke University about genomic tests it developed that looked at the molecular traits of a cancerous tumor and figured out which chemotherapy would work best.

(Michael Stravato/The New York Times)

ond opinion, then a third. In February 2010, she ended up at Duke University, where she entered a research study whose promise seemed stunning.

Doctors would assess her tumor cells, looking for gene patterns that would determine which drugs would best attack her particular cancer. She would not waste precious time with ineffective drugs or trial-and-error treatment.

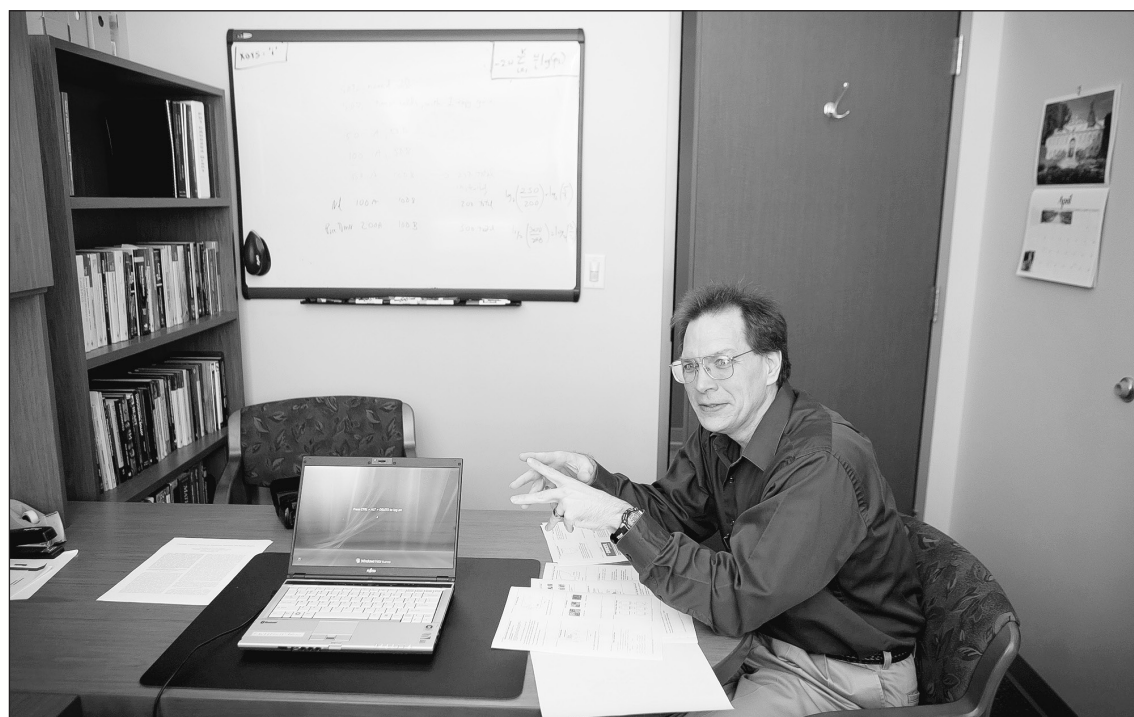
The Duke program – considered a breakthrough at the time – was the first fruit of the new genomics, a way of letting a cancer cell's own genes reveal the cancer's weaknesses.

But the research at Duke turned out to be wrong. Duke's gene-based tests proved worthless, and the research behind them was discredited. Jacobs died a few months after treatment, and her husband and other

molecules to improve the detection and treatment of cancer. Companies have been formed and products have been introduced that claim to use genetics in this way, but assertions have turned out to be unfounded. And while researchers agree there is great promise in this science, it has yet to yield many reliable methods for diagnosing cancer or identifying the best treatment.

Instead, as patients and their doctors try to make critical decisions about serious illnesses, they may be getting worthless information that is based on bad science.

The scientific world is concerned enough that two prominent groups, the National Cancer Institute and the Institute of Medicine, have begun examining the Duke case; they hope to find new ways to evaluate claims based on emerging and com-



Keith Baggerly, a statistician at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas, in his office in Houston.

(Michael Stravato/The New York Times)

simple and relied heavily on the expertise of a particular doctor, said Erica Jefferson, a spokeswoman for the agency. But now, with labs offering more complex tests on a large

patterns of genes or cell proteins.

But these were tests that were supposed to find ovarian cancer in patients' blood. One, OvaSure, was developed

western Medical Center. But Minna rallied; at the very least, he thought, he would make use of this incredible discovery to select drugs for lung cancer patients. □

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

Balashi Chill: 2 for 1 Unique Happy Hour at CILO City Lounge



ORANJESTAD - This Friday you can enjoy Happy Hour at CILO from 5 till 7pm! But this week's edition brings you a unique offer you don't want to miss out on: two Balashi Chill beers for the price of one. What a way to ease out your week. Forget all the meetings and the business stress and relax at CILO. We will serve you your Balashi Chill ice-cold to celebrate the upcoming weekend!

'Thank God it's Friday' gets a whole new meaning when listening to superb Angelo Koolman's songs. Local vocalist/guitarist Angelo Koolman sings the stars from the sky on Friday's during Happy Hour. You will know exactly why his name is Angelo after you hear him sing his ballads and hits! No wonder that this singer has gotten rave reviews after his performances on the top stages on the island. Come to CILO and create the sweetest memories of special moments; come early and stay late with Angelo. □



Lori & Lyle Miller honored at the Tropicana Resort



ORANJESTAD - Recently at the Tropicana Resort vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten

and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive

years are awarded the Ambassador of Goodwill title. The recent honoring were presented by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Tropicana Resort, where they

call their home away from home.

Lori & Lyle Miller were honored as Goodwill Ambassadors for the Island of Aruba. Miss Lori commented that a rainy day in Aruba is still better than a good day at work in the States.

Pictured: ATA Reps. Ricardo Croes & Enti Giel together with Lori & Lyle Miller and daughters together with staff from Tropicana Resort □



Awards for Achievement at El Gaucho Restaurant

ORANJESTAD -- At the end of a 6-week Wente Vineyard Incentive program Nancy Bazan a member of the dining room staff at El Gaucho Restaurant, received two Awards of Excellence on behalf of Wente Vineyards. Her colleague, Fernandez Nilton, was the overall winner of the program, receiving a nice gift certificate for Ling and Sons Super Center. Eric Wente himself, on a recent visit to the island invited the famously friendly and professional crew of the El Gaucho restaurant for a challenge when he set up a 6-week incentive program designed to increase the sales of some of his most favorite wines among them Tamás Estates Pinot Grigio Central Coast California, and from the Wente Vineyards collection: Morning



Fog Chardonnay, Livermore Valley, Riverbank Riesling, Monterey, Crane Ridge Merlot, and Southern Hills, Cabernet Sauvignon, both from Livermore Valley. The El Gaucho team did not disappoint Eric Wente and produced great results, pairing fabulous food with fine wine, enhancing the total enjoyment of restaurant patrons.

One of the most important

aspects of Wente Vineyard's grape growing operation is its adherence to the principles of sustainable agriculture.

The Wente Family has officially defined these innovative programs with a trademark phrase: Farming for the Future. Founded in 1883, Wente Vineyards is America's oldest, continuously operated family-owned winery. Today, the

winery maintains its leadership role in California wine-growing under the ownership and management by the Fourth and Fifth generations of the Wente family. Blending traditional and innovative winemaking practices, the winery draws from 3,000 acres of sustainably farmed estate vineyards to create an outstanding portfolio of wines.

Located just east of San Francisco in the historic Livermore Valley, Wente Vineyards is recognized as one of California's premier wine country destinations, featuring wine tasting, fine dining, concerts and championship golf, explains Joost Röben, Arion Wine Company, representing Wente Vineyard on the island and seen here in the picture with the winners. □

Driftwood Restaurant celebrates its 25th anniversary



ORANJESTAD – Friends and well-wishers gathered this week at the Driftwood Restaurant to wish the owners, members of the Merryweather family, another successful 25 years! Francine Merryweather and her son Herbert, his wife Carolina and the restaurant's staff enjoyed a champagne toast with guests, escorted by the restaurant's famous seafood hors d'oeuvres, in honor of the special day. Spreading the good news

even further, during the month of July, the Driftwood restaurant is offering locals and visitors added value worth a celebration on its own, in the form of 25% discount, off dinner. Twenty-five years ago, on July 4th, the Driftwood Restaurant unceremoniously opened its door on Klipstraat 12, in Oranjestad. Herby used to go fishing every day, recalls Francine, and his catch was always much in-demand among friends. Finally Francine, or

was it Herby, who came up with the idea of opening a quaint fisherman's restaurant at the heart of town, on a quiet street, in a typically colonial former residence. The décor idea came to the Merryweathers in a flash. Driftwood, of course. Herby encountered large quantities of it bobbing in the waves while on his fishing safaris and he started to bring the weathered, well-travelled wood home, to store for future use. When the restaurant idea was hatched Herby recruited all fish-loving friends to collect more washed in wood on the North Shore, and deliver their loot as building material for interior decor, which he interwove with mirrored glass, shells, fish nets, and retired maritime bric a brac. Francine recalls just 8 tables, and a hand-written menu, which she designed including the logo. The tablecloths were hand-sewn at home, and the atmosphere distinctly cozy and intimate, which restaurant patrons, both locals and visitors found irresistibly charming. While the restaurant expanded over the years, a few things never changed including the quality of the daily fresh catch, swimming in the sea in the morning and starring on plates by dinner time, and the Aruban-style congenial hospitality. Yes, the fish soup too. After 25 years the restaurant's traditional Fish Soup is still based on an old family recipe, the soup is made fresh every day and served brimming with Wahoo,

Mahi Mahi and Grouper. Francine reveals that the secret to the taste is a twig of basil, otherwise known in Aruba as Yerb'i Hole, grown in her garden. Francine says that the best way to enjoy the fish soup is with a piece of the restaurant's buttery funchi – baked polenta or with a slice of traditional Pan Bati – corn meal pancake wedges. At the helm, Francine is a passionate restaurateur, who cares deeply about the restaurant's dinner experience making sure each one of her guests enjoys his meal to the fullest. Combined with Herby's passion for fish and fishing, the last 25 years flew by quickly. The Driftwood restaurant menu still features the largest Shrimp in the sea, Fresh Fish & Caribbean Lobster even Alaska King Crab Legs, all cooked in a variety of tasty ways with garlic and wine, curry and

cream, in the traditional Creole style, or blackened, while also offering famous combination platters making any seafood lover's dream, come true. Meat eaters will be pleased with the restaurant Black Angus beef steak, chicken and lamb. Patrons find the Pasta Thermidor or even the Chicken Parmesan, hard to resist. The restaurant is open for dinner every day, and should you desire to catch your own fish for dinner, join the owner on Driftwood I and Driftwood II for a half or full day deep sea fishing charter. Happy Anniversary Driftwood restaurant! Pictured here, the Merryweather family, the dedicated staff members of the restaurant, some local taxi drivers who dropped in to congratulate the family, besides assorted friend and acquaintances. □

Amazonia Churrascaria hosts a special party for Confession Night Club



PALM BEACH – The staff and members of management of Confession Night Club congregated this week at Amazonia Churrascaria for a special party commemorating the club's one-year anniversary. DJs, bartenders, wait staff and door personnel enjoyed the guest experience at Amazonia Churrascaria on the wrap around tropical porch, taking the time to celebrate a successful first year. The club is also located on Palm Beach, just across the street from its good neighbor, Amazonia Churrascaria. Pictured here, Confession's crew taking the night off over Brazilian Rodizio style steakhouse dinner. □



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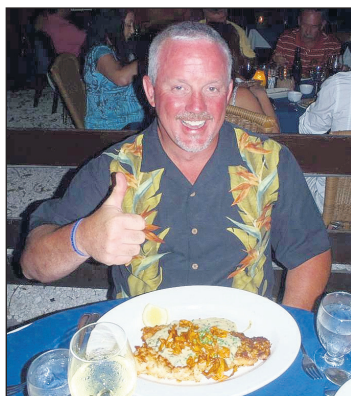
Farmer Family enjoys Aruba for the first time



PALM BEACH - Tim Farmer and his wife Kathy and their 3 children Troy 17, Cody 15 and Carly 12 are here on Aruba for their first time. They are staying at the Marriott Surf Club and they have been enjoying all of

the amenities of Aruba. They went to Madam Jeannette's one night and were very happy with the food and the atmosphere.

They are from Northern Virginia and are enjoying paradise for the week. They were witness to the fireworks on Monday evening from their balcony at the Marriott's Surf Club. They went snorkeling with Kent Gerber who is here on the Island for 6 weeks for his 23rd trip to Aruba. Kent took the family snorkeling one day and they all had a blast. They would really like to come back to this One Happy Island. □



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Hagen of Norway wins 6th stage of Tour de France

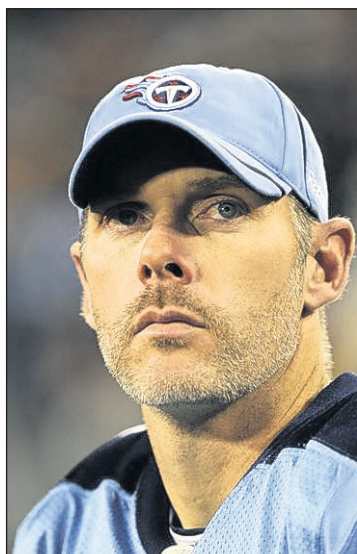
Edvald Boasson Hagen of Norway celebrates on the podium of the sixth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 140.7 miles starting in Dinan, Brittany, and finishing in Lisieux, Normandy, western France, Thursday July 7, 2011.

Associated Press
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SPORTS Aruba TODAY

Titans veteran QB Kerry Collins retires



This Dec. 9, 2010, file photo shows Tennessee Titans quarterback Kerry Collins looking at the scoreboard in the first quarter of an NFL football game against the Indianapolis Colts, in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)

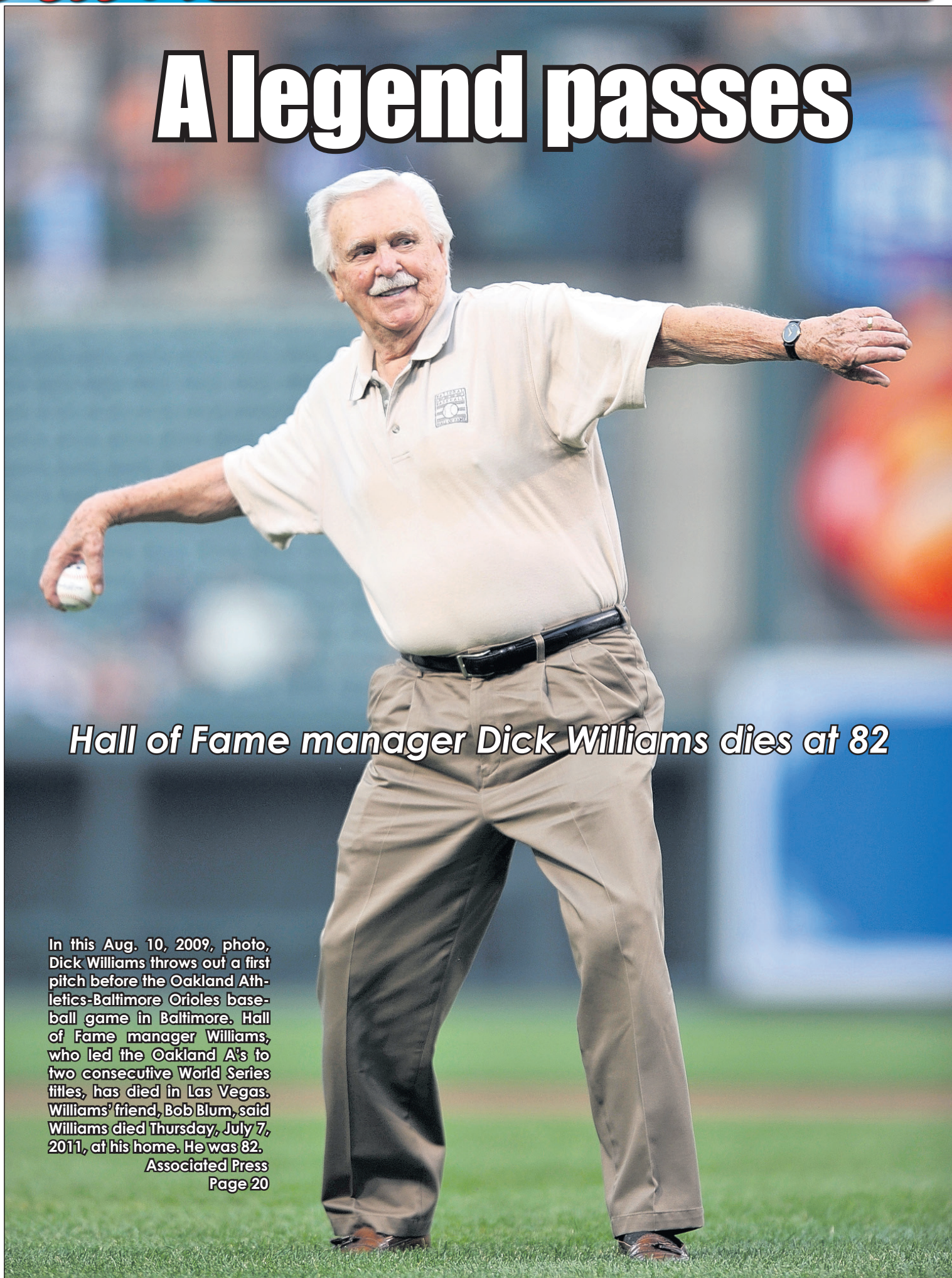
— Quarterback Kerry Collins is retiring from the NFL after 16 seasons in the league, his agent announced Thursday.

"The past several months have brought on much introspection, and I have decided that while my desire to compete on Sundays is still and always will be there, my willingness to commit to the preparation necessary to play another season has waned to a level that I feel is no longer adequate to meet the demands of the position," Collins said in a statement.

Collins, 38, was facing free agency after his contract expired in March, though he said as recently as last month that he still wanted to play.

Continued on Page 21

A legend passes



Hall of Fame manager Dick Williams dies at 82

In this Aug. 10, 2009, photo, Dick Williams throws out a first pitch before the Oakland Athletics-Baltimore Orioles baseball game in Baltimore. Hall of Fame manager Williams, who led the Oakland A's to two consecutive World Series titles, has died in Las Vegas. Williams' friend, Bob Blum, said Williams died Thursday, July 7, 2011, at his home. He was 82.

Associated Press
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Hagen wins 6th stage of the Tour de France

JAMEY KEATEN

Associated Press

LISIEUX, France (AP) — Edvald Boasson Hagen of Norway led a sprint to win the rain-splattered sixth stage of the Tour de France and his countryman Thor Hushovd retained the yellow jersey on Thursday. The pack battled both slippery roads and brisk winds over the hilly 226.5-kilometer (140.75-mile) ride across northwest France from Dinan to Lisieux in Normandy — the longest stage in the race this year.

Hagen, a sprint specialist with Team Sky, whizzed out of the barreling pack with about 200 meters left and held on, jutting his arms in the air as he crossed the line for his first Tour stage victory.

"I really surprised myself," Hagen said. "Lots of people say that I'm a talented guy,

so it's nice to show it by winning a stage."

Matt Goss of Australia was second, and Hushovd third. Referring to his compatriot Hushovd, who has twice taken home the Tour's green jersey awarded to the best sprinter, Hagen said: "I want to be as good as him — or better."

Philippe Gilbert of Belgium, who won Saturday's 1st stage, said "everyone was a bit out of breath" and that Hagen "devoured the last 150 meters — he's impossible to catch when he's like that."

Hushovd reveled in his country's success on Thursday.

"Not bad, after all — it's a good day for Norway," said the Garmin-Cervelo veteran, who retained the yellow jersey for a fifth consecutive day. As for Hagen, he said: "Clearly he's got a big fu-

ture."

Overall, Hushovd retained a one-second lead from Cadel Evans of Australia, while Frank Schleck of Luxembourg is third, four seconds back. Three-time champion Alberto Contador, who lost time in a Stage 1 crash, sits 34th overall, 1:42 behind. Hushovd and his team appeared to be wearying of the hard work of protecting the yellow jersey, which involves riding in the front to keep the race leader out of potential trouble.

"The yellow jersey's on my shoulders and I used up a lot of energy, so I'm a little bit tired. That's why I missed that little something today," Hushovd said. "I'm feeling good but it's been a hard and stressful week."

A string of breakaway riders sought to get a leg up but the pack eventually reeled them all in — the last



Edvald Boasson Hagen of Norway, second right, celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the sixth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 226.5 kilometers (140.7 miles) starting in Dinan, Brittany, and finishing in Lisieux, Normandy, western France, Thursday July 7, 2011. Others are Matthew Harley Goss of Australia., far left and second place, Romain Feillu of France, second left and fourth place, Philippe Gilbert of Belgium, wearing the best sprinter's green jersey, third left, and Thor Hushovd of Norway, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, right.

Associated Press

ones getting caught within just the last two kilometers. The pack also had to scale three low-grade climbs. Bike tires kicked up trails of mist on the rain-soaked roads, while the riders' shaved legs and arms glistened. Many gingerly negotiated sharp turns like one at the entrance to Lisieux.

"In seven Tours, it's the most amount of wet weather I've had in one day at the Tour, and then to happen on the longest day ... it makes for a hard day," Evans said, in comments relayed by his BMC team spokesman.

Top title contenders like Contador, Evans and two-time Tour runner-up Andy Schleck were sussing out each other's climbing skill. At one point, said Evans, Contador showed "a pretty good little attack."

"But with these climbs, it's so short and sharp that it doesn't give a good indication of who's really climbing the best — so we'll see when we get there," Evans said of the mountain stages in the Pyrenees and Alps. The three-week race ends July 24 in Paris.

Despite the slippery conditions, the stage was marked by fewer crashes than a day earlier, when many riders including Contador and British rider Bradley Wiggins went down.

Still, it was yet another bad day for the U.S. RadioShack team because American veteran Levi Leipheimer crashed with about 5 kilometers left — his second spill in two days — and lost more than a minute on the leaders.

The 37-year-old Leipheimer finished the stage in 75th place, 1:05 behind Hagen, and dropped to 31st overall — 1:23 behind Hushovd.

On Wednesday, RadioShack lost young star Janez Brajkovic of Slovenia from the race in a nasty spill that left him unconscious, bloodied on his head, and suffering from a concussion and broken collarbone.

The pack shrank by another rider, leaving 194 men in the race. Ivan Velasco of Spain didn't start Thursday after breaking his collarbone in a crash the day before.

Friday's stage offers more long-distance punishment: Riders are to cover 218 kilometers in a mostly flat ride from auto racing mecca Le Mans to Chateauroux, near mainland France's geographic center. □



Kerr, Anderson lead when storms hit LPGA U.S. Open



Cristie Kerr waves after a birdie on the sixth hole during the first round of the Women's U.S. Open golf tournament at the Broadmoor Golf Club on Thursday, July 7, 2011, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Associated Press

EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado (AP) — Cristie Kerr and amateur Amy Anderson were tied for the lead at 2-under par in the opening round of the U.S. Women's Open when play was called off for the day be-

cause of thunderstorms in the area on Thursday.

Kerr had three holes remaining and Anderson had six to go when the sirens sounded, clearing the East Course at the Broadmoor. Yani Tseng, trying to complete the career Grand Slam, was among the 72 players who hadn't begun their afternoon rounds when the bad weather hit. Defending champion Paula Creamer will also start her first round Friday.

Inbee Park, Ai Miyazato and Silvia Cavalleri were at 1 under when play was halted.

Of the 25 players who had completed their rounds, Kristy McPherson had the best score at 2-over par 73. The rain halted a mini streak for Kerr, who had made two straight birdies to get into a tie for the lead. After her second birdie, Kerr, who opened her round on the back, teed off into the right rough on No. 7, then hit her approach into the

sand.

That's when the siren sounded and the players headed to the clubhouse.

"At least I'll get to practice some long bunker shots before we go out, so maybe it's a good thing for me," she said.

After halting play, the USGA kept the players in the clubhouse for 2 1/2 hours, but with the thunder still rumbling and the radar blinking red, officials called it off. That means nearly half the field, including Creamer and Tseng, could face 72 holes packed into three days of action on a typically rough U.S. Open setup.

Anderson hit her approach on the par-5 ninth to tap-in range for her second birdie of the day. That put her at 2 under.

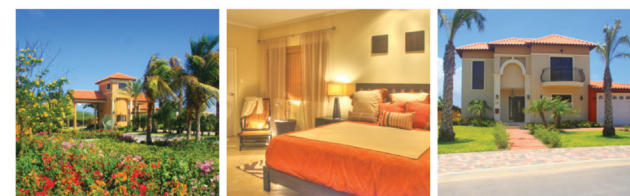
"The first-day leader," she said.

"That's way more than I could have imagined." She needs to hold onto the lead for six more holes to make it official. □



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Baltimore Colts Hall of Famer John Mackey dies

BALTIMORE (AP) — John Mackey revolutionized the tight end position, his incomparable ability to catch passes off the line of scrimmage helping to usher the NFL into the pass-happy modern era.

After his retirement, Mackey remained on the forefront of change in professional football. He pushed for better health care and championed the cause of former players, even as he battled the dementia that ultimately forced him into an assisted-living facility.

The Hall of Famer for the Baltimore Colts died at age 69. Mackey's wife notified the team about her husband's death, Ravens spokesman Chad Steele said Thursday. No cause was given.

"John Mackey was one of the great leaders in NFL history, on and off the field," Commissioner Roger Goodell said. "He was a Hall of Fame player who re-defined the tight end position. He was a courageous advocate for his fellow NFL players as head of the NFL Players Association. He worked closely with our office on many issues through the years, including serving as the first president of the NFL Youth Football Fund. He never stopped fighting the good fight."

Mackey played for the Colts from 1963-71, during a time when tight ends were viewed as additional offensive tackles.

His breakaway speed, soft hands and bruising running made him difficult to cover, giving Johnny Unitas another top target in the passing game.

Together, they helped the Colts beat the Dallas Cowboys in the 1971 Super Bowl by connecting on a pass after it deflected off two other players for a 75-yard touchdown. Mackey also played for the San Diego Chargers in 1972, and finished his 10-year career with 331 catches for 5,236 yards and 38 TDs.

His efforts after his playing days were just as important as his performance on the field.

An NFL labor agreement ratified in 2006 includes the "88 Plan," named for Mackey's number. The plan provides up to \$88,000 a year for nursing care or day care for former players with dementia or Alzheimer's disease, or \$50,000 for home care.

"John Mackey is still our leader. As the president of the NFLPA, he led the fight for fairness with a brilliance and with ferocious drive," union executive direc-

tor DeMaurice Smith said. "His passion continues to define our organization and inspire our players. His unwavering loyalty to our mission and his exemplary courage will never be forgotten."

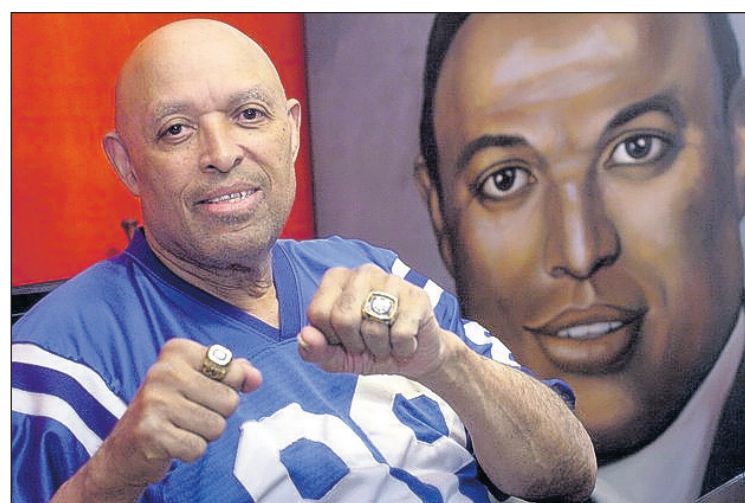
Mackey has become closely associated with the plight of many former players who took to the field in an era before million-dollar contracts, safer equipment and better health care coverage.

He suffered from frontotemporal dementia that is believed to have been caused by the contact associated with playing football. The costs associated with his care, which far outpaced Mackey's pension, led the push toward better health care for former players.

The issue has gained prominence in recent months during negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement. An NFL lockout has been going on since March.

"John Mackey has inspired me and will continue to inspire our players," Smith posted on his Twitter feed Thursday. "He will be missed but never forgotten."

Mackey was drafted in 1963 out of Syracuse — twice, actually. He was se-



In this June 9, 2011 file photo, a "sold" notice is posted on the "for sale" sign of a house, in Seattle. Home prices in major U.S. cities have risen for the first time in eight months, boosted by an annual flurry of spring buyers.

lected by the NFL's Colts in the second round and the rival AFL's New York Jets in the fifth round.

He wound up playing for the Colts just as the passing game was taking on a major role in pro football. His size, speed and ability to catch the ball while also blocking in the running game made him the prototype for future generations of tight ends.

"John revolutionized the tight end position during his Hall of Fame career, and he laid the foundation on and off the field for modern NFL players," Ravens general manager and fellow Hall of Fame tight end Ozzie Newsome said.

Mackey caught 35 passes

for 726 yards as a rookie in 1963, when he was selected to the first of five Pro Bowls. He also was voted first-team All-Pro by The Associated Press in 1966, '67 and '68.

"John set the standard by which tight ends are measured on the field, and he will be sorely missed not only by his family, but also by the entire Baltimore community," Ravens owner Steve Bisciotti said in a statement.

After he retired, Mackey joined Mike Ditka as the first tight ends selected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. The John Mackey Award was established to honor the nation's top college tight end. □

Masterson masters Yankees, Indians win 5-3



Cleveland Indians starting pitcher Justin Masterson winds up against the New York Yankees in the first inning of a baseball game Wednesday, July 6, 2011, in Cleveland.

Associated Press

AL Roundup

CLEVELAND (AP) — Cleveland pitcher Justin Masterson shut down New York for eight scoreless innings to lead the Indians to a 5-3 win over the Yankees in the clash of American League divisional leaders on Wednesday. Masterson (7-6) struck out six and got just his second

win since April. He turned it over in the ninth to the bullpen, but reliever Vinnie Pestano gave up three runs before closer Chris Perez got three outs for his 21st save. New York's Derek Jeter got hit No. 2,997 of his career and also drew a walk from Masterson, who was backed up by two sensational plays from All-Star shortstop Asdrubal Cabre-

ra in the eighth. Rookie Lonnie Chisenhall hit his first career homer for Cleveland, which scored two runs in the first off starter Phil Hughes (0-2), but left the bases loaded twice and stranded 13 runners. Red Sox 5, Blue Jays 4 In Boston, Jacoby Ellsbury and Kevin Youkilis both had three extra-base hits to power Boston past Toronto. Boston starter Tim Wakefield (5-3) earned the 198th win of his career, filling in for a rotation that is without Clay Buchholz, Jon Lester and Daisuke Matsuzaka. The 44-year-old knuckleballer allowed three runs and struck out seven in seven innings as Boston earned its sixth win in seven games. Blue Jays starter Ricky Romero (7-8) gave up six runs in 4 1-3 innings. He surrendered leadoff homers in the first two innings, to Ellsbury and Youkilis, and allowed five straight hits — three doubles — as Boston scored four times in the fourth inning. Red Sox closer Jonathan

Papelbon gave up one run in the ninth but earned his 19th save. Toronto went homerless for the first time in 14 games.

Angels 4; Athletics 2

In Anaheim, Miguel Cabrera homered during a three-run seventh inning which lifted the Detroit Tigers to a 5-4 win over the Los Angeles Angels in the American League on Wednesday. Cabrera greeted reliever Michael Kohn (0-2) by hitting a tiebreaking, two-run shot; his 18th homer of the season.

Victor Martinez drove in two runs as the Tigers avoided a three-game sweep, having scored just one run over the first two games of the series. Detroit starter Brad Penny (6-6) settled in after allowing three runs in the first. He gave up six hits over 6 1-3 innings and won for only the second time in nine starts. Jose Valverde worked a perfect ninth for his 21st save. The Angels lost their first game in five.

Rays 12, Twins 5

In Minneapolis, Evan Longoria had three hits and four RBIs for Tampa Bay, which avoided being swept by Minnesota.

Longoria's single gave the Rays the go-ahead run in the eighth inning, and he added a three-run homer in the ninth.

He had been 3 for 28 before the game.

The Rays haven't been swept in a series of three or more games since the season-opening set against Baltimore. Twins reliever Alex Burnett (2-5) allowed three straight batters to reach in the eighth, capped by Longoria's single. B.J. Upton pushed in the next run with a squeeze bunt, then Sean Rodriguez hit a two-run homer to stretch the lead to four.

Tampa Bay reliever J.P. Howell (2-1) pitched a scoreless seventh for the win.

Rangers 13, Orioles 5

In Arlington, Alexi Ogando allowed four hits over seven innings as Texas completed a three-game sweep of Baltimore.

Ogando (9-3) turned in his second consecutive ef-

fective outing after losing three straight starts.

Baltimore starter Jeremy Guthrie (3-11) gave up four runs in the first and allowed six runs in five innings as he took over the AL lead in losses.

Mike Napoli had a three-run homer while the Rangers broke the game open with a four-run seventh. Michael Young and Nelson Cruz also had three RBIs for Texas. Young scored twice, giving him 958 runs for his career, tying Rafael Palmeiro for the Rangers record.

The Orioles have lost eight of nine.

Athletics 2, Mariners 0

In Oakland, California, Guillermo Moscoso pitched seven scoreless innings to help Oakland salvage the final game of the three-game series against Seattle.

Moscoso (3-4) allowed only two singles, striking out five and walking one. He has allowed one earned run in his past 24 2-3 innings.

Scott Sizemore homered in the second inning and added an RBI single in the fifth against Jason Vargas (6-6).

The Mariners had their three-game winning streak snapped.

Royals 4, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Bruce Chen pitched effectively into the seventh inning to steer Kansas City past Chicago.

Chen (5-2) retired the first nine batters he faced and escaped a bases-loaded, no-out jam in the sixth with just one run scoring.

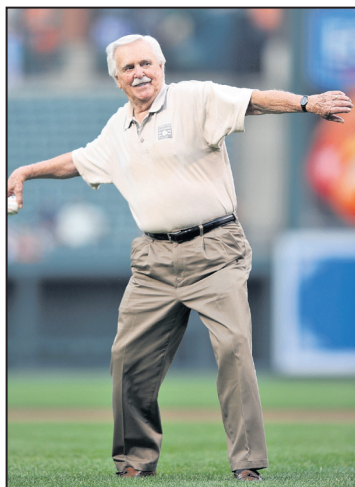
Eric Hosmer homered leading off the second on a ball that just went over the glove of the Chicago center fielder at the wall.

Jeff Francoeur delivered a two-out RBI single in the fourth and hit a sacrifice fly in the sixth to make it 4-0.

Chicago starter Edwin Jackson (5-7) allowed four runs in seven innings.

In other AL games it was Tampa Bay 12, Minnesota 5; Kansas City 4, Chicago White Sox 1; Detroit 5, L.A. Angels 4; Oakland 2, Seattle 0; Cleveland 5, N.Y. Yankees 3; Boston 6, Toronto 4; and Texas 13, Baltimore 5.

Hall of Fame baseball mgr. Dick Williams dead at 82



In this Aug. 10, 2009, photo, Dick Williams throws out a first pitch before the Oakland Athletics-Baltimore Orioles baseball game in Baltimore. Hall of Fame manager Williams, who led the Oakland A's to two consecutive World Series titles, has died in Las Vegas. Williams' friend, Bob Blum, said Williams died Thursday, July 7, 2011, at his home. He was 82.

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Sports Writer

By taking over a ninth-place team and leading it to the pennant in his first

year as a big-league manager in Boston, Dick Williams earned the reputation of being a turnaround artist that he built on later in Montreal and San Diego. By taking over an emerging powerhouse in Oakland and leading the Athletics to back-to-back World Series titles to start a dynasty in the 1970s, Williams became a Hall of Famer. Williams, one of only two managers ever to lead three teams to the World Series, died Thursday from a ruptured aortic aneurysm at a hospital near his home in Henderson, Nev., the Hall of Fame said. He was 82. With his brash style, mustache and public feuds with owner Charlie Finley, Williams was the ideal manager for the A's teams that won it all for him in 1972 and '73 and then again the following year after he resigned.

"He came to us at a very

good time in our development and certainly for me as a young player full of talent ...," Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson said. "We were young and needed to understand how to go about winning and take the final step to become a great team.

He was very important in that. He demanded excellence."

He was able to get that out of his players in many of his stops, winning pennants with the Red Sox and San Diego as well as the championships in Oakland to join Hall of Famer Bill McKenchie as the only managers ever to take three franchises to the World Series.

He also helped build the Montreal Expos team that went to the playoffs in the strike-shortened 1981 season as he built on his success turning around struggling franchises with his no-nonsense approach. □

Henry sets up Red Bulls 5-0 rout of Toronto FC

MLS Roundup

HARRISON, New Jersey (AP)

— Thierry Henry scored the opening goal as the New York Red Bulls routed Toronto 5-0 in Major League Soccer on Wednesday.

The former Barcelona and Arsenal striker scored in the 33rd minute and English forward Luke Rodgers made it 2-0 just five minutes later, with both goals set up by Norwegian Jan Gunnar Solli.

Estonian midfielder Joel Lindpere made it 3-0 in the 52nd and set up both of Juan Agudelo's goals, in the 66th and 89th minutes as New York set a new season high for goals.

New York moved a point ahead of Philadelphia — which has played two fewer games — in the Eastern Conference with only its second win since May 7.

Toronto has won only one of its past 11 games.

Sporting Kansas City 1, Colorado Rapids 1

In Kansas City, Kansas City extended its unbeaten streak to nine games with a home draw against Colorado.

Conor Casey scored in the 32nd minute for the Rapids,

who have only one victory in their past 10.

Sporting's equalizer came in the 62nd minute. Colorado goalkeeper Matt Pickens could not hold a C.J. Sapong shot and Graham Zusi easily put the rebound into the net.

Chivas 2, San Jose Earthquakes 0

In Carson, California, Ben Zemanski and Nick LaBrocca each scored to help Chivas beat San Jose and end its four-game winless streak.

Chivas struck first when Zemanski fired a shot from 30 yards in the 64th minute that proved too much for Earthquakes goalkeeper Jon Busch. LaBrocca scored in the 84th for his fifth goal of the season.

The loss wasn't the only negative for the Earthquakes, who lost right back Steven Beitashour to injury and forward Steven Lenhart for the next match due to yellow card accumulation.

Vancouver Whitecaps 0, Columbus Crew 1

In Vancouver, Jeff Cunningham scored in the 89th minute, tying the MLS record of 133 career goals, and giving Columbus a valuable away win at Van-

couver.

Cunningham, who came on as a second-half substitute, headed his landmark goal past Vancouver goalkeeper Joe Cannon after a corner. He tied former D.C. United star Jaime Moreno for the league record.

The Whitecaps have won just one of seven games under new coach Tom Soehn, who replaced the fired Teitur Thordarson in late May. □



Vancouver Whitecaps' Nizar Khalfan, right, plays the ball as Columbus Crew's Chad Marshall looks on during second half MLS soccer game action in Vancouver, Canada on Wednesday July 6, 2011.

Associated Press



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As a Caribbean leader in sustainable tourism, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts seeks individuals who value the natural resources of Aruba and are keen on protecting them. Knowledge of Quality ISO 9001 and Environment ISO 14001 certifications are a plus. Qualified candidates should be flexible in their work hours, available to work evenings, weekends and holidays. They should also be able to work in a drug free environment.

The following positions are currently available:

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & QUALITY ASSURANCE

- Minimum 5 years experience in similar position with hotel or time-share operation
- Master of Bachelor degree in Restaurant and Hospitality Management
- Must have strong leadership and supervisory skills with the ability to coach, train, discipline and provide constructive criticism for employees
- Strong customer-service skills and a friendly, outgoing personality
- Proven track record of organizational skills and strong ability to prioritize and multi-task
- Computer knowledge and to work with a POS (Squirrel a plus)
- English necessary, Spanish a plus

CHIEF ENGINEER

- Minimum 5 years experience in similar position with hotel or time-share operation
- Expert in HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, PM Programs, Sustainable Powering, Carpentry, Painting and Landscaping
- Computer knowledge recommended
- English necessary, Spanish a plus
- Proven track record of organizational skills and strong ability to prioritize and multi-task

HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR

- Minimum 1 year experience in similar position with hotel or time-share operation
- Knowledge in indoor / outdoor sanitation methods
- Organized and strong ability to prioritize and multi-task
- Computer knowledge recommended (Opera and Concierge Assistant a plus)
- English necessary, Spanish a plus

Interested applicants can get more specific information and download a complete application form on our website: www.bucuti.com/careers/jobs

Please send your resume by Email: jobs@bucuti.com or Fax: 582-5272 or Call: 583-1100 ext 136/138 for an appointment

Kerry Collins

Continued from Page 17

Tennessee has said it plans to trade or release quarterback Vince Young after the NFL lockout ends, which would leave just this year's eighth-overall draft pick, Jake Locker, and Rusty Smith, a sixth-round pick in last year's draft, on the roster at the position.

Collins shared the stage with Young in his final season despite suffering injuries to his middle finger and thumb. Collins took over for good after Young suffered a season-ending injury to his right thumb on Nov. 21, though the Titans only won one of their final six games. "Kerry had a great NFL career and we have been very

fortunate to have had him with our organization for the last five years," Titans-coach Mike Munchak said in a statement. "I really enjoyed working with him. He was a true pro, who loved the game. His work ethic and commitment were a great example to his teammates of what it took to be successful in this league."

In 195 career games, Collins maintained a 55.8 completion percentage and threw for 40,441 yards, 206 touchdowns and 195 interceptions.

He was the fifth overall pick by the Carolina Panthers in the 1995 NFL draft after playing at Penn State. He also played for the New Orleans Saints, New York Giants and Oakland Raiders. □

\$ 5 BINGO Mon-Wed-Fri 3:30pm Tues-Thurs-Sat-\$7/ 3:30 pm-Sun \$7/ 2 pm Power-Ball/Progressive/Bonus Prizes



Grisly labels not so scary for cigarette sales

MICHAEL FELBERBAUM

AP Tobacco Writer

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP)

— The top U.S. tobacco companies' sales aren't expected to go up in smoke despite new grisly warning labels that are set to appear on cigarettes packs next year. The graphic labels, which were released in June by the Food and Drug Administration and include an image of rotting teeth and gums, will cause a decline of less than one percent in overall U.S. tobacco revenues in 2013, accord-

which translates to about \$300 million in lost revenue. That's only a fraction of the estimated \$43.8 billion in revenue for the tobacco industry in 2013, the firm's calculation show.

The analysis, however, does not take into account the cost of redesigning and printing new cigarette packages, the number of people who won't start smoking because of the warnings, or the smokers who cut down on their habit.

"Gradually, the warnings

wearing an oxygen mask and a man wearing an "I Quit" T-shirt.

The warnings must also appear in advertisements and constitute 20 percent of each ad, and cigarette makers will have to run all nine labels on a rotating basis. The FDA estimates that the labels will cut the number of smokers by 213,000 in 2013, with a smaller additional reduction through 2031.

Aside from the potential to get people to quit smoking — or prevent them from starting — the labels also could have a huge marketing effect for cigarette makers by making their brand names less important, said Deborah Mitchell, executive director of the Center for Brand and Product Management at the University of Wisconsin.

Being unable to differentiate cigarette packs, Mitchell said, consumers will care less about what brand they're smoking, and more about how much it will cost them. That's a potential concern for Marlboro, the nation's top-selling cigarette, and its owner Richmond-based Altria Group Inc., parent company of the nation's largest cigarette maker, Philip Morris USA. "A great brand like Marlboro, it's like they cast this spell," Mitchell said, referring to the brand's cowboy mythology. "If the spell is broken, for example, with this really negative packaging ... all at once, Marlboro is just another brand of tobacco."

Despite the estimated minimal impact on revenue, in a federal lawsuit, some of the major companies argue that the warnings will relegate their cigarette brand names to the bottom half of the cigarette package, making it difficult or impossible to see. □



Cigarette packets sporting graphic health pictures lie on a table while workers have a drink at a local pub in Sydney, Australia, Wednesday, July 6, 2011. The government introduced a groundbreaking bill to Parliament on Wednesday that would prevent tobacco companies from displaying their distinctive colors, brand designs and logos on cigarette packs in a bid to make smoking less attractive to the young. Once enacted on May 20 next year these plain packaging laws will be the world's toughest laws on tobacco promotion, Health Minister Nicola Roxon said.

(AP Photo/Rob Griffith)

ing to a recent analysis by research firm IBISWorld.

An average person in the U.S. smokes fifteen cigarettes a day at a cost of about \$1,500 per year,

could impact the smoking population," said IBISWorld cigarette and tobacco industry analyst Mary Go-taas. "But in the near term, it won't have much of an impact."

The nine warning labels are required by federal law to take up half of the pack, both front and back, by the fall of 2012. The labels, which represent the biggest change in cigarette packs in the U.S. in 25 years, also include images of the corpse of a dead smoker, diseased lungs, a smoker



Sue Bennett, left, hugs her pregnant domestic partner Elese Lebsack before riding a motorcycle during the 41st annual Gay Pride parade in San Francisco. More than 30 years after the world's first test-tube baby was born and despite modest advances, scientists are still struggling to dramatically improve the odds for infertile couples trying to have children.

(AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

Odds of baby for infertile couples still very low

MARIA CHENG

AP Medical Writer

LONDON (AP)

— More than 30 years after the world's first test-tube baby was born and despite modest advances, scientists are still struggling to dramatically improve the odds for infertile couples trying to have children.

Though new techniques have been introduced in recent years, in-vitro fertilization remains a costly, stressful process, with only about a 25 percent chance of success in most cases. At a meeting this week of the European Society for Human Reproduction and Embryology in Stockholm, scientists discussed new research into how eggs and embryos develop and how to predict and possibly prevent miscarriages in infertile women.

But even that knowledge is unlikely to radically boost the chances of most infertile couples trying for a baby.

"IVF isn't a perfect technology," said Dr. James Grifo, director of the NYU Fertility Center. He was not con-

nected to any of the studies presented in Stockholm. "We're still limited by nature and most embryos in nature don't make babies," he said.

Grifo said IVF success rates have risen from about 10 percent about 15 years ago to about 25 percent for most infertile couples these days. He also added that for healthy women under 40, the rate can be as high as 50 percent.

"For many patients, the technology is the difference between having a baby and not having a baby," he said. "I'm very hopeful about the future, but it isn't for everybody. Not everybody has the money or the stomach for it."

Women undergoing IVF must take drugs to dampen down and then to stimulate their reproductive systems, which involves taking pills and giving themselves shots every day. For several weeks, women typically have daily blood and ultrasound tests to monitor their hormone levels and ovaries before having a procedure to retrieve their eggs. □



Security holes discovered in iPhones, iPads and iPods



In this Sept. 1, 2011 file photo, Apple CEO Steve Jobs with an iPhone, left, iPad and iPod Touch, right, are displayed at an Apple announcement in San Francisco.

Associated Press

By JORDAN ROBERTSON

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A new security hole has opened up in Apple Inc.'s iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch devices, raising alarms about the susceptibility of some of the world's hottest tech gadgets to hacker attacks.

Flaws in the software running those devices came to light after a German security agency warned that criminals could use them to steal confidential data off the devices. Apple, the world's largest technology company by market value, said Thursday that it is working on a fix that will be distributed in an upcoming software upgrade.

With the security hole, an attacker can get malicious software onto a device by tricking its owner into clicking an infected PDF file. Germany's Federal Office for Information Security called the flaws "critical weaknesses" in Apple's iOS operating system.

Internet-connected mobile devices are still subject to fewer attacks than personal computer, but they could eventually prove a juicy target for hackers because they are warehouses of confidential banking, e-mail, calendar, contact and other data.

Software vulnerabilities are discovered all the time. What makes the latest discovery alarming is that the weaknesses are already being actively exploited — albeit in a consensual way.

The latest concerns were prompted by the emergence of a new version of a program to allow Apple devices to run any software and circumvent the restrictions that Apple notoriously retains over software distributed through its online store.

There are security risks of doing so, but many people find it liberating to install their own software.

Although this program is something people would seek out, the weaknesses that its authors discovered could easily be used for malice, security experts say.

There is an irony in the controversy: The site distributing the program offers a fix for the problem, but to get the fix, a user has to first install the program in question. So a user must defy Apple's restrictions to get the protection until Apple comes up with a fix of its own.

Charlie Miller, a prominent hacker of Apple products, said it likely took months to develop the program to break Apple's restrictions, but a criminal might need only a day or two to modify it for nefarious purposes.

Apple Inc. spokeswoman Bethan Lloyd said Thursday the company is "aware of this reported issue and developing a fix." She would not say when the update will be available.

One reason for gadget owners to take heart: Attacks on smartphones and other Internet gadgets are still relatively rare. One reason is PC-based attacks are still highly lucrative. □

Cricket's Muve Music plan showing promise

RYAN NAKASHIMA

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Pre-paid wireless carrier Cricket said Thursday that its Muve Music service has quickly become one of the top unlimited mobile music plans in the United States with 100,000 subscribers, just months after launching in January. The quick uptake by Cricket consumers — many of whom do not have credit cards — is a rare success for the music industry, still reeling from a piracy-induced decline in CD sales and struggling to boost music sales via digital means. Part of Muve's attraction is that access to unlimited song downloads is



Models of Galaxy Tabs of Samsung Electronics Co. are displayed in a showroom at its headquarters in Seoul, South Korea, Thursday, July 7, 2011.

Associated Press

bundled with a \$55-a-month plan that includes unlimited voice, data and texting. Although such services have become popular in European countries such as France and Norway, Muve represents the first music plan bundled with cellphone service in the U.S. Jeff Toig, general manager of Muve Music, said another reason for the plan's popularity is that it's simple and targets Cricket's value-focused customers. "One phone, one plan," Toig said. "And you get all your music essentially free as part of your wireless service. It's really simple for people to get that." □



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- Competitive salaries
- Pension plan
- Health, disability and life insurance
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- Educational training
- Saving plans and Loan availability
- Complimentary shift meal

As a Caribbean leader in sustainable tourism, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts seeks individuals who value the natural resources of Aruba and are keen on protecting them. Knowledge of Quality ISO 9001 and Environment ISO 14001 certifications are a plus. Qualified candidates should be flexible in their work hours, available to work evenings, weekends and holidays. They should also be able to work in a drug free environment.

The following positions are currently available:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT & RESERVATIONS

- Experience in hotel or time-share operation in the Reservations Department
- Organized and strong ability to prioritize and multi-task
- Strong customer-service skills and a friendly, outgoing personality
- Computer knowledge of programs like, Opera, Concierge Assistant and Rate Tiger
- English necessary, Spanish a plus

FRONT OFFICE AGENT

- Experience in similar position with hotel or time-share operation
- Related experience with guests services
- Computer and PMS knowledge recommended (Opera and Concierge Assistant a plus)
- English necessary, Spanish a plus

CONCIERGE

- Experience in similar position with hotel or time-share operation
- Related experience with guests services
- Computer knowledge recommended (Opera and Concierge Assistant a plus)
- English and German necessary, Spanish a plus

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

- Minimum 1 years experience in similar position with hotel or time-share operation
- Expert in HVAC, Electrical, Refrigeration, and Plumbing.
- English necessary, Spanish a plus

SEAMSTRESS

- Experience in similar position
- English necessary, Spanish a plus

Interested applicants can get more specific information and download a complete application form on our website: www.bucuti.com/careers/jobs

Please send your resume by Email: jobs@bucuti.com or Fax: 582-5272 or Call: 583-1100 ext 136/138 for an appointment

Ford sued over sync connectivity system

NICK BUNKLEY

© 2011 New York Times

DETROIT – Ford Motor Co.'s chief executive, Alan R. Mulally, has been fond of saying that Ford is "more than just a car company – we're also a technology company."

High-tech amenities, like the popular Ford Sync system that lets drivers seamlessly connect their car and mobile phone, have helped bring more customers and huge profits to the automaker. But now a small company in Washington state says it actually developed the technology behind Sync and a handful of safety features that Ford is adding to much of its lineup. The company, Eagle Harbor Holdings, has filed a federal lawsuit against Ford, accusing the carmaker of infringing on seven patents.

Although the suit, filed last week, is unlikely to result in Ford being forced to

stop putting the features in its vehicles, the carmaker could pay millions of dollars in licensing fees if it loses in court or agrees to settle. Analysts say such cases,

into more software in the vehicles you're going to have this happen a lot more," said Kevin Hamlin, an analyst with the research firm IHS iSuppli. "Writing



Featured, the Ford Harley Davidson is a big attraction. Eagle Harbor Holdings, has filed a federal lawsuit against Ford, accusing the carmaker of infringing on seven patents.

commonplace in the high-tech world but not in the auto industry, will be seen more frequently as cars and trucks increasingly become roadworthy computers.

"When you start getting

code in software leads to a lot of these suits. It just kind of goes along with the territory."

Ford declined to comment on the suit, saying in an emailed statement that

officials "have not yet had an opportunity to review the details."

Eagle Harbor's general counsel, Jeff Harmes, said the company had been in discussions with Ford for six years about licensing its technology to the automaker, but Ford cut off the talks in 2008.

The founders of Eagle Harbor, Dan Preston and his son Joseph, are inventors whose previous company, Airbiquity, developed technology licensed by General Motors for its OnStar communication service. Ford currently licenses technology from Airbiquity. "This is a group

of engineers with a long track record of developing commercially viable technology," Harmes said. In addition to Sync, which Ford developed in a partnership with Microsoft, the technology at issue in the suit includes MyKey – which gives parents the ability to monitor and limit actions by teenage drivers – and several safety features that use sensors. One of the features automatically steers the vehicle into a parallel parking space and another alerts drivers to vehicles in their blind spots and warns of potential collisions when backing out of a parking space. □

As gold prices rise, Russia is a seller

ANDREW E. KRAMER

© 2011 New York Times

MOSCOW – Two years ago during the global recession, gold bugs took note when Russia's president, Dmitri A. Medvedev – taking a swipe at the U.S. dollar – proposed that central banks hold reserves in what would be a new, gold-backed international currency.

But more recently, as gold prices have soared – in part on market expectations that central banks will begin adding to gold reserves as a buffer against global uncertainties – Russia is not following its own advice.

Far from hoarding gold, Russia is selling it. The country's domestic gold mining industry has continued to sell onto international markets. Russia has also eased gold trading rules to let more gold be mined and exported more quickly.

Meanwhile, the Russian central bank is buying gold at a desultory pace that is barely keeping up with its overall accumulation of foreign currency reserves.

In short, Russia is selling gold because this has been a seller's market

also run a trade deficit within a few years, something that could be addressed in part



As gold prices have soared – in part on market expectations that central banks will begin adding to gold reserves as a buffer against global uncertainties – Russia is not following its own advice.

– and the nation needs the money. After years of surpluses before the recession, Russia's federal budget has slipped into a deficit. And economists predict that Russia could

by exporting gold.

Gold, which many investors view as the ultimate safe haven, is off the recent highs it reached in April. But the price is still up 62 percent in the past two years. □

U.S. regulators adopt tougher rules for derivatives market

BEN PROTESS

© 2011 New York Times

Federal regulators on Thursday adopted the first in a series of new rules for the derivatives market, giving the government broad new authority over the \$600 trillion industry that played a central role in the financial crisis.

The rules, approved unanimously by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, greatly expand the government's ability to police insider trading and other fraud. Regulators say the rules will inject new life into the commission's often-hamstrung enforcement efforts.

"We will use these tools to be a more effective cop on the beat, to promote market integrity and to protect market participants," Gary Gensler, the commission's chairman, said at a public meeting in Washington on Thursday. "Effective regulation requires an effective enforcement program."

One crucial rule enacted Thursday requires hedge funds and other large firms to turn over details about their trading in derivatives to the commission. It approved five rules altogether, a critical step in the push to overhaul the regulation of Wall Street in the aftermath of the crisis.

Still, more than 40 derivatives regulations remain unfinished. The agency and the Securities and Exchange Commission recently said they would miss the July 16 deadline to complete most derivatives rules stemming from the Dodd-Frank financial regulatory overhaul, enacted a year ago this month. In the lead-up to the crisis, investors bought billions of dollars' worth of derivatives as insurance on mortgage-backed securities. When the underlying mortgages soured, the American International Group and other firms that sold the deals could not meet their obligations.

The new regulations approved Thursday could prevent a repeat of that mess, Gensler said.

One rule allows the agency to survey the swaps market, a type of derivative contract previously outside its jurisdiction. Under the proposal, hedge funds, energy firms and other large players in the market must turn over daily reports detailing an array of private data, including their stakes in swaps and records of their trades. □

Retail sales and jobs reports send stocks higher

DAVID K. RANDALL
MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — A rebound in retail sales and strong jobs reports pushed stocks near their highest levels of the year.

U.S. retailers had their best June sales results since 1999 as shoppers were lured into stores by warm weather and deep discounts. Kohl's Corp., Target Corp., and Urban Outfitters Inc. each gained more than 6 percent.

Investors have been concerned that high gas prices would constrain consumer spending as people looked for ways to save money. The higher sales figures reassured markets that consumers were becoming more willing to spend again.

"The closest thing to an unadulterated barometer of our progress is same-store sales," said Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at Harris Private Bank in Chicago. Same-store sales for the 28 retailers who reported

them on Thursday were up 6.9 percent. "Everything is tied to it: Sales drives profits, profits drive hiring and hiring drives sales. It's a neat, virtuous circle."

An improving job market likely helped. The number of people who made first-time claims for unemployment benefits dropped last week to a seven-week low of 418,000, the government reported. That's a sign that employers are laying off fewer workers.

Separately, payroll processor Automatic Data Processing said companies added 157,000 employees in June. The bulk of the hiring came from small businesses. The tally is more than double the number economists had forecast and far more than the 36,000 added the previous month. The report isn't always an accurate predictor of the Labor Department's monthly unemployment report, but has been more of a bellwether in recent months. The Labor Department's re-



Women with shopping bags cross paths in front of Bloomingdales in New York, Tuesday, July 5, 2011.

Associated Press

U.S. to ease foreclosure rules for unemployed

DEREK KRAVITZ
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is making it easier for out-of-work homeowners to stay in their homes, as it tries to revamp its signature but troubled foreclosure-prevention program.

Starting Aug. 1, the Federal Housing Administration will extend the period for unemployed homeowners to miss mortgage payments from three or four months to a full year. That will allow qualified homeowners to go without making a monthly payment for 12 months before the foreclosure process begins.

The extended grace period only applies to FHA-backed loans, which represent about 14 percent of all active mortgages and roughly 25 percent of new mortgages, and homeowners in the government's foreclosure-prevention program. Housing and Urban Devel-

opment Secretary Shaun Donovan said Thursday that administration officials hope private lenders and government-controlled mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, which back 90 percent of all new mortgages, will adopt a similar policy.

"Our hope is that this will have broader effects," Donovan said during a conference call.

The government launched its chief foreclosure program in 2009 to help those at risk of foreclosure by lowering their monthly payments. Borrowers start with lower payments on a trial basis. But the program has struggled to convert them into permanent loan modifications.

More than 1.6 million troubled homeowners received trial modifications over the past two years. But a majority of the applicants, about 854,000 homeowners, have dropped out of the pro-

port will be released Friday. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 93.47 points, or 0.7 percent, to close at 12,719.49. The Standard and Poor's 500 index added 14 points, or 1.1 percent, to 1,353.22. The tech-focused

Nasdaq composite closed at 2,872.66 after gaining 1.4 percent. It briefly traded at a new high for the year of 2,877.

The Dow and S&P 500 are close to their 2011 highs, reached on April 29. Then

came higher gas prices, a slowdown in manufacturing and job growth and bad weather in the South. That led to concerns that the economic recovery was stalling. At the same time, worries about a debt default by Greece also heightened fears of a European financial crisis. The Dow and S&P had six straight weeks of declines falling as much as 8 percent off their April highs. Just three weeks ago, the S&P index had given up nearly all of its gains for the year.

A rebound in a key manufacturing index and stronger sales figures from Nike Inc. and other companies pushed the index up nearly 6 percent since June 15th. Signs of a deal to help Greece avoid default and allow the country to restructure its debt also calmed financial markets. The Dow and S&P 500 are now up 2.5 percent so far this month.

The Dow is up 9.86 percent for the year.

Trading has been light in the stock market this week. Markets were closed in the U.S. on Monday for the July 4th holiday. No major corporate earnings came out this week. Aluminum maker Alcoa Inc. is the first major U.S. company to report second-quarter earnings on Monday. □



In this June 9, 2011 file photo, a "sold" notice is posted on the "for sale" sign of a house, in Seattle.

Associated Press

gram entirely. In recent weeks, administration officials have acknowledged that housing has become a significant drag on the economy. President Barack Obama said the housing market has "been most stubborn to us trying to solve the problem," during a town-hall-style meeting Wednesday on Twitter.

Homeowners accepted into the program receive interest rates as low as 2 percent for five years. They can repay their loans over

a longer period. The median savings for those who remain in the program is about \$526 per month. Those who have their payments delayed must repay them, with interest.

But many homeowners have complained that the program has been a bureaucratic mess. Some have said they were disqualified after banks lost their documents and failed to return their phone calls. Banks have blamed homeowners for failing to submit needed paperwork. □

FISHING DOESN'T SEEM QUITE THE SAME SINCE THEY STARTED FREE WI-FI HERE AT THE LAKE

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH...

BLAH, BLAH, BLAH...

TEXT TEXT TEXT

Beep Beep Beep

TIP TAP TAP TAP

MATT MURPHY

7-9

www.Blondie.com

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WHERE'S THE NEWT YOU GOT AT THE PET STORE?

OH, HE WENT OUT. HE'S GOT VERY DEFINITE TASTES.

HE SNEAKS OUT BEHIND SOME SWANK PIZZA PLACE FOR LUNCH, AND THEN A FANCY RESTAURANT FOR DINNER.

HOW ABOUT MORNINGS?

BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S.

MIKE PETERS

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10	Book divisions	B	O	A		L	I	T	E	R	A	L		D	U	B
11	Mechanical man	B	R	I	B	E	D		R	E	D		H	A	D	A
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7/9/1

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2 Unclothed	32 Have a good time with
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38 Uniformity	51 Major artery
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45 Greece's dollar before the euro	54 Makes airtight
48 Vast, treeless stretch of land	56 College official
50 Entry made by enemy forces	57 __ of Wight
	58 Horn's sound
	59 Orient
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Today In History

Today is Friday, July 8, the 189th day of 2011. There are 176 days left in the year
Highlights in history on this date:

1524 - Italian explorer Giovanni da Verrazzano arrives in France to report on his discoveries in the New World, which include the New York Bay. His voyage becomes the basis for French claims of territory.

1709 - Russian forces under Peter the Great defeat Swedish forces under Charles XII at Poltava, Ukraine.

1792 - France declares war on Prussia.

1993 - Seven Muslim radicals are hanged in Egypt for attacking foreign tourists in their campaign to overthrow the government.

1994 - Kim Il Sung, North Korea's longtime ruler, dies.

1995 - Phanor Arizabaleta, one of the top leaders of the Cali cocaine cartel, surrenders in Bogota, Colombia. He later gets 28 years in prison.

1998 - The Taliban religious army in Afghanistan outlaws televisions and video cassette recorders.

1999 - Authorities shut down a reformist paper in Tehran, Iran, sparking a week of violent rioting by students and their hard-line opponents.

2000 - Pakistani police end

a nine-hour standoff with the wife of deposed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, forcing her to drive to the family home outside the eastern



Today is Beck's birthday

Punjab capital of Lahore. The standoff began when police tried to prevent Kulsoom Sharif from launching an anti-government march.

2006 - Poland's governing party accepts the resignation of Prime Minister Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz and recommends party chairman Jaroslaw Kaczynski — the president's identical twin — to replace him.

2008 - Iraqi officials step up pressure on the United States to agree to a specific timeline to withdraw American forces.

2009 - President Barack Obama and other leaders of the world's richest industrial countries pledge to seek dramatic cuts in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 to slow dangerous climate change. They agree for the first time that worldwide temperatures must not rise more than a few degrees.

2010 - The largest spy swap between the U.S. and Russia since the Cold War unfolds as 10 people accused of spying in suburban America pleaded guilty to conspiracy and were ordered deported to Russia in exchange for the release of four Russian spies.

Today's Birthdays:

Jean de La Fontaine, French writer and fabulist (1621-1695); Count Ferdinand Zeppelin, German inventor of dirigible (1838-1917); John D. Rockefeller, U.S. financier (1839-1937); Kathe Kollwitz, German artist (1867-1945); Angelica Huston, U.S. actress/director (1951--); Kevin Bacon U.S. actor (1958--); Beck, U.S. rock singer (1970--).

Thought For Today:
History must stay open, it is all humanity — William Carlos Williams, American author and poet (1883-1963). □

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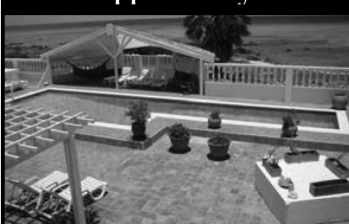
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Fans gather for Potter premiere in London

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Harry Potter's saga is ending, but his magic spell remains.

Thousands of fans from around the world massed in London Thursday for the premiere of the final film in the magical adventure series.

They thronged Trafalgar Square, where the stars walked a rain-sodden red carpet, and nearby Leicester Square, where the movie was being shown in a plush movie theater, braving the inevitable London

for "the amazing things they did for my favorite characters."

The fans, who chanted "thank you" as Rowling and the cast took the stage, came from around the world. Many had camped out overnight, some for days. Most were young adults who grew up with the boy wizard and his adventures, and could not pass up the chance to say goodbye.

"It's our childhood — we made friends because of Harry Potter," said Luis Guilherme, a 22-year-old



British author JK Rowling, second left, joins actors, left to right, Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint in Trafalgar Square, central London, for the World Premiere of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2" the last film in the series, Thursday, July 7, 2011. Harry Potter's saga is ending, but his magic spell remains. Thousands of fans from around the world massed in London Thursday for the premiere of the final film in the magical adventure series.

(AP Photo/Joel Ryan)

rain with umbrellas, water-proofs and good cheer.

Sun broke out as cast members — including leads Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint — and Harry's creator J.K. Rowling began arriving on the red carpet, signing autographs and chatting with fans.

Speaking from a stage erected in Trafalgar Square, 21-year-old Radcliffe, who has played the boy wizard since he was 11, told fans that Harry's story would never end.

"Each and every person, not just here in this square but around the world who have watched these films for the last 10 years, they will always carry the films with them for the rest of their lives," he said.

Rowling wiped away tears as she thanked the actors

graduate student from Sao Paulo, Brazil. "I don't know how my life would be without it. I would be less imaginative, for sure, and less adventurous. I would never be here in London.

"We'd never forgive ourselves if we didn't come, one last time."

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2" depicts Harry's final confrontation with the forces of evil Lord Voldemort — an epic showdown rendered, for the first time in the series, in 3D.

The eighth and last film in the made-in-Britain franchise was getting a lavish premiere, with huge screens and banners in Trafalgar Square and a nearby street transformed into the magical shopping thoroughfare Diagon Alley. □

Paris-based designer Yin showcases talent

JENNY BARCHFIELD

AP Fashion Writer

PARIS (AP) — Fashion insiders are constantly fretting about the future of couture — the rarified and wildly expensive garments handmade by a largely aging group of artisans. The truth is there are young designers out there who are developing the skills that could make them the next generation of couturiers. Award-winning designer Yiqing Yin proved herself a contender Thursday with a strong fall-winter 2011-12 collection made up of mini-dresses in woven leather and or little cocktail numbers that exploded with an outcropping of twinkling crystals.

A billowing white dress had the airy volume of a cloud, while a skintight gray mini-dress was woven with thin white leather strips that made it look like the model was wrapped in an X-ray of her torso.

The neckline on another abbreviated cocktail dress in finely pleated silk was covered with oversized crystals and looked like some sort of rare geological formation.

Yin, a French-Australian of Chinese origin, has gar-



A model wears a creation for the Yiqing Yin Fall-Winter 2011-2012 Haute Couture fashion collection presented in Paris, Thursday, July 7, 2011.

(AP Photo/Jacques Brinon)

nered considerable attention since winning the City of Paris' Grand Prize for Cre-

ation and taking second place in France's ANDAM fashion award. □



A model wears a creation for the Yiqing Yin Fall-Winter 2011-2012 Haute Couture fashion collection presented in Paris, Thursday, July 7, 2011.

(AP Photo/Jacques Brinon)

Neurosis abounds in new season of HBO's "Curb Your Enthusiasm"

ALESSANDRA STANLEY

© 2011 New York Times

Most comedies are about losers.

"Louie," on FX, is so bleak that one of its tag lines is "Misery loves comedy." The exception of course is "Curb Your Enthusiasm," a

son."

Last season seemed like it could be the final one. It was hard to see how David could top a story arc that brought about a mock "Seinfeld" reunion and pushed Larry's estranged wife, Cheryl (Cheryl Hines),

value, a spirited assault on political correctness that had Larry saying shockingly offensive things to women, gay people, members of minorities, the handicapped, the fat and even small children. He once enraged a lesbian reception-



Jeff Garlin, left, with Larry David in a scene from HBO's "Curb Your Enthusiasm." "Curb Your Enthusiasm" is a series about a successful, wealthy, and relatively contented Hollywood writer. Larry David plays himself as a bald, bespectacled neurotic who has no trouble getting great women. And yet the show is funny. And that's just one more reason that "Curb Your Enthusiasm," which returns to HBO on Sunday for an improbable eighth season, stands out. It's a series centered on the petty irritations that blister an idle, privileged life. And they keep getting pettier. (Claudette Barius/HBO via The New York Times)

series about a successful, wealthy and relatively contented Hollywood writer. Larry David plays himself as a bald, bespectacled neurotic who has no trouble getting great women. And yet the show is funny. And that's just one more reason that "Curb Your Enthusiasm," which returns to HBO on Sunday for an improbable eighth season, stands out. It's a series centered on the petty irritations that blister an idle, privileged life. And they keep getting pettier. In Season 4 Larry went to New York to play Max Bialystock in "The Producers." This season he goes back to New York, but only to escape an acquaintance who pesters Larry to attend a charitable event for children with special needs. "You look at these kids, and you feel so complete," the man tells Larry. "If only by compari-

back into his arms (briefly). On the other hand, it was also hard to see how the show could outdo Season 6, which introduced the Blacks, a family of displaced Hurricane Katrina survivors who move in with Larry and take over his life. Season 8 succeeds by not seeking a complex overarching theme. Like a single-cell organism that reproduces itself, Larry's life self-complicates. He blunders most often because he is hypersensitive to slights but is utterly blind to his own insensitivity. His inability to read social cues is at times so pronounced he seems to show symptoms of Asperger's Syndrome – not a full-blown case, of course, but a dash of it, a more common condition one friend describes as Splashperger's. In earlier seasons much of the humor was laced with shock

ist when he suggested that she and her partner name their adopted Chinese baby Tang. ("It's a juice," Larry explains. "But it has Chinese overtones.") This time around, David pokes fun at political incorrectness as well. In one episode Larry and his manager, Jeff (Jeff Garlin), sneak off to sample the fabled chicken at a Palestinian diner. The chicken is so popular that the owners decide to open a second location, next to Goldblatt's deli. And that outrages Larry's circle of friends, who discuss the issue in the kind of language cable news pundits have used to debate plans to erect an Islamic center and mosque near ground zero. "How in the world can they dare put up a Palestinian chicken restaurant next to the sacred land of that deli?" one dinner guest says. □

Authors, filmmakers and musicians battling piracy

Gary Dinges

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AUSTIN, Texas -- Months and months of hard work available for illegal downloading free of charge in a matter of minutes.

That's the difficulty facing authors, filmmakers and musicians across the nation, costing them untold sums of money each year. Beefed-up legislation being discussed in Congress could soon increase the penalties for posting copyrighted material online, which creative types are hoping will put a dent in intellectual property theft.

"It has become rampant," said Sandra Brown, a Dallas-area author with 60 New York Times bestsellers. "I have an assistant -- a real Internet guru -- who spends the bulk of her time monitoring the Web."

Brown, her assistant and lawyers for publishing houses have sent dozens of cease-and-desist letters to people who have scanned her books -- front to back -- and posted them online.

"Just a few years ago, I never could have conceived of any of this," Brown said.

Dano Johnson, an animator and director behind "Flatland: The Movie," is also dealing with piracy. His educational film has been posted on multiple sites, including YouTube, where it was played nearly 5,000 times before being removed.

"I feel like I got robbed 5,000 times," he said.

Johnson set up Google

alerts after the film was released, hoping to read what others were saying about "Flatland." Instead, the bulk of what the search engine found were links to sites promising free copies of his work.

"We're the little people here," Johnson said. "Unfortunately, we just have to take the loss."

This year, attorneys general from across the nation -- including Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott -- sent letters to members of Congress, asking them to take action that would help people like Brown and Johnson. The requested legislation is currently in the works in Washington, D.C.

"In light of studies showing that intellectual property theft costs the economy billions of dollars and threatens thousands of American jobs, improving protections for intellectual property rights would benefit our state," Abbott told the Austin American-Statesman.

"Texas' thriving music industry -- our state is home to nearly 800 recording studios, more than 500 record labels and 250 publishers -- alone supports nearly 145,000 jobs and thousands more businesses," he said.

While the co-opting of their works is irksome, Brown and others say they'll continue to do what they love.

Johnson, for instance, is working on a follow-up to "Flatland."

"Piracy isn't going to make me want to stop making films," he said. □



An armored personnel carrier of the Philippine National Police runs over piles of pirated DVDs during a ceremonial destruction of pirated goods seized in raids recently.

(AP Photo/Bullit Marquez)

Taxes and billionaires



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

© 2011 New York Times

The House speaker, John Boehner, suggests that the Republican threat of letting the United States default on its debts is driven by concern for jobs for ordinary Americans.

"We cannot miss this opportunity," he told Fox News. "If we want jobs to come to America, we've got to give American businesspeople the confidence to invest in our economy."

So take a look at one of the tax loopholes that congressional Republicans are refusing to close – even if the cost is that America's credit rating blows up. This loophole has nothing to do with creating jobs and everything to do with protecting some of America's wealthiest financiers.

If there were an award for Most Unconscionable Tax Loophole, this one would win grand prize.

Wait, wake up! I know that "tax policy" makes one's eyes glaze over, but that's how financiers have gotten away with paying a lower tax rate than their chauffeurs or personal trainers. Tycoons have bet for years that the public is too stupid or distracted to note that in many cases they're paying just a 15 percent tax rate.

What's at stake is the "carried interest" loophole, and President Barack Obama is pushing to close it. The White House estimates that this would raise \$20 billion over a decade. But congressional Republicans walked out of budget talks rather than discuss raising revenues from measures such as this one.

The biggest threat to the United States this summer probably doesn't come from Iran or Libya but from the home-grown risk that the nation will default on its debts. We don't know the economic consequences for America or the world, and some of the hand-wringing may be overblown – or maybe not – but it's reckless of Republicans even to toy with such a threat.

This carried interest loophole benefits managers of financial partnerships such as hedge funds, private equity funds,

venture capital funds and real estate funds – who are among the highest-paid people in the world. John Paulson, a hedge fund manager in New York City, made \$4.9 billion last year, top of the chart for hedge fund managers, according to AR Magazine, which follows hedge funds. That's equivalent to the average per capita income of 184,000 Americans, according to my back-of-envelope calculations based on Census Bureau figures.

Paulson declined to comment on this tax break, but here's how it works. These fund managers are compensated mostly with a performance bonus of 20 percent or more of the profits they make.

Under this carried interest loophole, that 20 percent is eligible to be taxed at the long-term capital gains rate (if the fund's underlying assets are held long enough) of just 15 percent rather than the regular personal income rate of 35 percent.

This tax loophole is also intellectually vacuous. The performance fee is a return on the manager's labor, not his or her capital, so there's no reason to give it preferential capital gains treatment.

At a time when the richest 1 percent of Americans have a greater collective net worth than the entire bottom 90 percent, there are other ways we could raise money while also making tax policy more equitable.

The White House is backing some of them in its negotiations with Congress, but others aren't even in play.

One important proposal has to do with founder's stock, the shares people own in companies they found.

Fleischer has written an interesting paper persuasively arguing that founder's stock is hugely undertaxed. It, too, is essentially a return on labor, not capital, and shouldn't benefit from the low capital gains rate.

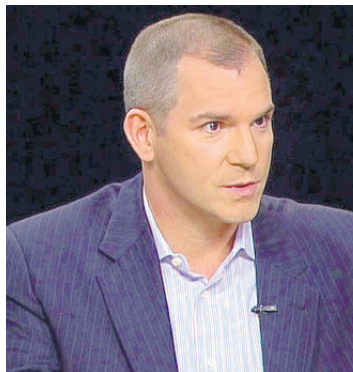
The larger question is this: Do we try to balance budget deficits just by cutting antipoverty initiatives, college scholarships and other investments in young people and our future? Or do we also seek tax increases from those best able to afford them?

And when congressional Republicans claim that the reason for their recalcitrance in budget negotiations is concern for the welfare of ordinary Americans, look more closely. Do we really want to close down the U.S. government and risk another global financial crisis to protect the tax bills of billionaires? □

GOTCHA!



Cartoonists International: www.nytsyn.com/cartoons



FRANK BRUNI

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Friday morning, barring thunder or blunder, the space shuttle Atlantis will cough smoke, spit fire and, in a spectacle no less dazzling for its familiarity, bust free of its earthly trappings, some 2,250 tons somehow rising above the clouds.

And that will be that. Roll the credits. Its scheduled takeoff – and slated return 12 days later – are the last in the U.S. shuttle program, which now draws to an unsettling close.

Ending it, I suppose, makes good sense. Its benefits grew increasingly debatable, at least in relation to its cost: around \$200 billion over four decades (including the planning years). Money is tight. What budget NASA still has might be better used in other ways.

But as the centerpiece of our country's gaudily ambitious space adventures, the shuttle program was a pre-eminent symbol of our belief that there were literally no limits to where we could go and no boundaries to what we could accomplish, so long as we hitched our ingenuity to our imagination and marshaled the requisite will.

And there's no real sense of what big dreams, if any, lie beyond Atlantis. The program's end carries the force of cruel metaphor, coming at a time when limits are all we talk about.

The current political debate and the nascent 2012 election season are utterly earth-bound, with a tone so gloomy it's often shocking. Instead of the defiant trumpet blast that it's morning in America – Ron-

Heaven has to wait

ald Reagan's retort to the so-called malaise of the Jimmy Carter years – we have anxious promises to hold back the night.

"Let's stop this American downward spiral," Rick Perry, the Texas governor, told a conservative convention last month, as he rehearsed lugubrious lines he might use in a presidential bid.

Jon Huntsman, declaring his candidacy for the presidency a few days later, observed, "For the first time in history, we are passing down to the next generation a country that is less powerful, less compassionate, less competitive and less confident than the one we got." Hard decisions had to be made, he added, in order "to avert disaster."

To some degree, such dire language reflects predictable political gamesmanship. By lamenting the status quo, candidates disparage its designated steward – in this case, President Barack Obama.

And the country has certainly survived more devastating and sustained periods of economic distress than the present one, finding renewed prosperity on the far side.

But Americans right now are profoundly doubtful. Shaken. For many, the fear isn't just that there's no imminent end to high unemployment and tepid economic growth, but that we've turned a fundamental corner and our best days really are behind us.

A Gallup/USA Today poll conducted in late April found that 55 percent of Americans considered it unlikely that children today would have better lives than their parents, while only 44 percent considered it likely. Those responses were the most negative, by far, over the last quarter-century, and they undercut a central tenet of American optimism.

Just last week the Democratic pollster Mark J. Penn, writing in Time magazine, concluded that "the country is going

through one of its longest sustained periods of unhappiness and pessimism ever."

He cited a recent survey suggesting that "more than two-thirds of the country sees the past decade as a period of decline."

And 39 percent of the respondents in a recent New York Times/CBS News poll characterized that decline as permanent, at least in economic terms. That was a marked increase from 28 percent who said so last fall.

It's in this context that many Democrats and Republicans alike nurse a new isolationism, convinced that we can no longer afford broad engagement in the world. It's in this context that immigrants, wanting pieces of a pie deemed more finite, are vilified.

And it's in this context that hard-line conservatives cling to the notion of American exceptionalism.

They can't shut out what's in their peripheral vision – economies in China, India and Brazil that are expanding much faster than ours – and doth protest too much.

In Washington and in state capitals, the squabbling is epic, and it's focused not on what we might dare to build but on what we might manage to preserve, not on degrees of progress but on gradations of regress: how many parks, schools, libraries need be closed.

Despite the president's exhortation that we chart the frontiers of innovation, there's no grand mission that represents the kind of storehouse for our confidence and emblem of our can-do spirit that space exploration once did.

What has happened to our sense of discovery? I'm not sure, but I know what will happen to the spaceship Discovery, one of four remaining shuttles in the fleet. It's bound for the Smithsonian, where we stockpile the glories of yesteryear. □

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